

THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL
OF
HOMŒOPATHY.

EDITED BY S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

“THE AGITATION OF THOUGHT IS THE BEGINNING OF TRUTH.”

VOL. IV.

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*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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NO. 1.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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This JOURNAL will be issued on the first of each month at One Dollar a year, in advance. City subscribers will be regularly served at their residences by sending their names to 762 Broadway.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW YORK, MAY, 1849.

INTRODUCTION.

We now commence the labor of another year, in the publication of this Journal. We do not deem it necessary to say much by way of introduction to this volume. We are not of those who deal in promises, for we shall, as heretofore, let each number speak for itself. We hope our friends will not bestow upon us quite so much of wordy praise, but in place thereof, according to their professed favorable opinion of our labors, exert themselves to extend the circulation of our periodical. If the doctrines we advocate, are true, the sooner they are known and appreciated, the better. Therefore, the friends of homœopathy are in duty bound to use means to spread the knowledge of that system of medicine.

We have had a few complaints, and for these we are thankful. One desires our sheet to appear weekly—give us 3000 paying subscribers, and it shall be done. Another wishes

it to appear twice in a month—let us have 2000 paying subscribers, and we will do it. Another wants it enlarged to a hundred or more pages with a beautiful cover, &c., &c., and increase the price to \$3—this we will not do under any circumstances. We want the American Journal of Homœopathy read, and although each number, contains but sixteen pages, we have lost three subscribers for this volume, each of whom wrote us, that he was "highly pleased with the Journal" but had not time to read it. One writes us to make the next volume "more practical:" this is a puzzler; for the life of us, we do not understand what it means. If an allopath should give us such advice, we would understand him at once; but when a homœopath thus advises, we are at fault. Are not the volumes already published full of principles, clearly defined, and fully illustrated, which are sure guides in the healing art? These are what a homœopath wants, he cannot move without them; but an allopath only wants the name of a disease, and a case related as a model of the treatment of it, and that is practical matter for him; for with principles he does not deal—a law of cure he has no conception of. The relation of cases, as models of treatment for a homœopath is useless—it is quackery in homœopathy.

We set little value on reported cases, for if they are used as models, their effect is pernicious. If a group or groups of symptoms clearly expressed, have been removed by a particular drug, in a particular attenuation, such facts are useful. These help to improve our *materia medica*.

Let it be understood, that the practice of homœopathy requires the judgment of the physician, in the application of its principles to each case treated. No one needs expect to be a safe and successful practitioner of our

art, who is not a close student. He who is indolent cannot be a true physician of our school.

We respectfully solicit communications, adapted to the character of this Journal. We at all times endeavor to express our own thoughts, in as few words as possible, and we hope our correspondents will oblige us, or rather our readers, in that way. Long articles are seldom read.

We do hope, that physicians of our school throughout this country, will see their interest promoted by aiding us in our work. If we were to consult our own ease, if we were controlled by mere selfishness, we would not issue another number of this Journal. It is not the most pleasant thing, to be compelled, after the labors of the day, to set up whole nights to prepare matter for the printer, and after all our care, to find, when it is too late to correct, some blunder in our articles, obscuring the sense, or destroying it altogether: and then in a few days afterwards, to receive some allopathic journal, who points out, not in the most polite manner, what we ourselves have already discovered, and instead of charitably attributing it to an oversight or an error, places it boldly to our "ignorance," and hurls it at the whole school. And the only consolation we can obtain is to pay them in their own coin, which fortunately for us, is usually quite plenty.

On the whole we have got along, much better than we expected. The American Journal of Homœopathy is established; its character is now understood, and many have stated that their first knowledge of homœopathy was obtained from its pages. We shall try to do better, but of this we will not speak.

HOMŒOPATHIA: WHY IT IS OPPOSED.

To spread error, requires very little sacrifice of labor or expense; but to spread truth demands much of both. What is necessary to be known for the happiness of man, is plain, near at hand, and may be reached by all. The human mind influenced by pride, overlooks truth, for pride feeds on error, which is its natural food. Whoever has an unreasonable conceit of his own superiority in talents, can never perceive much of truth on any subject. In proportion as truth lives in the mind, so is the diminution of pride, for he who has the largest supply of truth, is the

most humble. This principle applies to all branches of human knowledge. Medical history shows no class of men, so intolerant as physicians, in matters relating to medicine. This tendency to refuse to tolerate others in the enjoyment of their opinions has been strengthening for years, until it is now developed to a degree beyond any former period. This condition is in consequence of the baseless theories, the thousands of pretended facts, which are but so many lies, and the illogical reasonings founded upon them, which fill thousands of volumes on medicine. Such masses of error when thrown into the minds of students cannot but engender pride, which may forever prevent them from admitting true principles, especially if these tend to disturb their previously formed notions.

The period is approaching when this state of things in the medical profession must mend or end. The time for persecution for opinion's sake has passed, and no well-informed man will allow himself in such folly.

He who habitually suspects or charges others with dishonesty, is liable to have his own integrity suspected also. The continued personal attacks upon those who have seen fit to adopt homœopathy, leads to a suspicion that their assailants, are not quite as honorable minded and pure hearted as they would have the world believe. We could introduce published charges bearing directly upon this point, but it is not necessary, our readers hear more, perhaps, on that subject, than we do. There happens to lay upon our table while we write, a notice of a pamphlet by Henry Muller, M. D., Professor, &c., in the medical school of Louisville, Ky., in which an attempt is made to examine the claims of homœopathy as a system, &c. He says "Homœopathic doses of medicine are nothing, absolutely nothing, and in themselves, incapable of doing either good or harm." How he obtained this knowledge is a question which he does not solve; and, as he never tried them, we are left to suppose that he is in the same predicament with the wise farmer, who hooted at the idea of the earth's turning over:—"That can't be, because it's impossible."

Quite a different view is taken of the same subject by Dr. Millengen, Surgeon to the British forces, a man of great experience and practical knowledge, and honored by many titles. He wrote a book, entitled "Curiosities of Medical Experience." In this work

he ridicules some of the *theories* of Hahnemann, but admits the value of the law of cure, and the efficacy of the remedies, and gives cases cured by them. "I trust" says Dr. Millengen, "that the few cases I have related will afford convincing proof of the injustice, if not the unjustifiable obstinacy of those practitioners, who, refusing to submit the homœopathic practice to a fair trial, condemn it without investigation. The introduction of infinitely small doses, when compared, at least, with the quantities formerly prescribed, is gradually creeping in. The history of medicine affords abundant proof of the acrimony, nay, the fury, with which every new doctrine has been impugned and insulted. The same annals will also show that this spirit of intolerance has always been in the ratio of the truths that these doctrines tended to bring into light. From the preceding observations, no one can accuse me of having become a blind bigot of homœopathy; but I can only hope that its present vituperators will follow my example, and examine the matter calmly and dispassionately, before they proceed to pass a judgment, that their vanity may lead them to consider a final sentence."

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

GLONOINE,

A New Medicine for Headache, &c.

I invite my colleagues to take part in proving of this very important substance, which may in a very short time be of daily use and will assist us in curing a great many important cases; for instance, some forms of apoplexy with more precision than hitherto.

Glonoine is made of the Glycerine or Oil Sweet of Scheele, a substance which remains after saponification of nearly all animal or vegetable oils and fats, and is considered a component part of the same. In our case the Glycerine has been prepared from the genuine Olive Oil. Glycerine or Glycyloxyhydrate is modified by nitro-sulphuric acid, undergoing the same process which cotton undergoes when changed into gun-cotton. It is equally explosive.

As Sobrero, the discoverer of this substance, did not give it a name, I called it Glonoine, from Glo, oxyd of Glycyl, No, Nitric Acid, and the termination, ine. Sobrero remarked, it had a pungent taste and

caused violent headache with every one who tasted it.

With this remark, the new substance becomes an important one to physiologists, as there is nothing known which in such small quantities and with such precision causes headache. Every substance with such certainty of effect, ought also to be considered as important to the physician. No matter according to what rule he may give his drugs, he must allow the importance of this agency, and may now test his theory by pointing out the cases in which it not only may help the patients, but *must* help, and in which the cure has to follow with the certainty of a mathematical conclusion.

But alas! poor boasting physicians of the old allopathic schools! What can they do? Here is the discovery, here is a powerful substance, what is to be done with it? They do not know and never will know, except they steal cowardly the results of our investigations, and bring it out as their own with the same impudence as they have done already, viz: Aconite in inflammations, Arnica in bruises, Nux vomica as a cathartic, &c., &c. They imagine they have "rationalized" the results of our practice either by mixing those drugs with something else, or by "appendixing" a nonsensical series of words called a theoretical explanation. Nobody knows, nor do they know themselves, what will be said to make the Glonoine rational; but after we have done, and they have stolen it, it will be no doubt "rationalized."

Our Glonoine has even created a great sensation among members of the "regular profession." This spring, a graduate of one of the Philadelphia colleges made it the subject of his thesis. He asked me for information, and I gave him all I knew of its history, preparation and properties. He of course does not say that experiments had been made with it by homœopaths more than a year ago, nor does he mention the name given it by me. After being shown the somewhat difficult mode of preparing it, he at last succeeded in obtaining a small quantity, with which he made some valuable experiments on a cat, and on several healthy persons. I understand the Professors of the College are so much pleased with this thesis, that they intend to have it published. A Professor of the same College,—by the way a great physiologist,—had such an idea of this awful substance, that he not only would not taste it, but would not

even allow a bottle of it to be opened in his presence! Quite natural; for *Ars. longa, vita brevis est.*

The contrast is immense if we come to the homœopathic side of the parties. All homœopathic physicians, how much they may differ otherways, every one, who has acknowledged the main truth of our school, immediately comes to the same conclusion.

This new substance has caused headache with all who tasted it: thus—1st. It has to be proved by a regular series of experiments on different healthy persons, in order to find out what kind of headache it produces. Not if this headache be called rheumatic, congestive or nervous, but exactly what kind of feelings are produced, where most, under what influences (of heat, weather, time of the day, motion of the head and body, position, &c.) it is aggravated or ameliorated, what symptoms besides headache are produced; it cannot cause headache without having a decided influence on the whole organism. 2nd. It will cure such headaches and other complaints in the sick as are similar to the symptoms produced by it on the healthy.

No mathematician, no mechanic, no chemist can be more certain with regard to his conclusions than we are. During the last eighteen months, a series of experiments on the healthy has been made with the Glonoine, and about twenty homœopathic physicians have already added their efforts to this great and important exploration. A number of other friends of our cause, have willingly suffered a little headache for a few minutes, in order to augment the observations, and increase by this the weight of probability with regard to the one or to the other characteristic. Even a number of very sceptical persons allowed a few pellets (each with the 5000th part of one drop) to melt on their tongues or take what little remained on the point of a pin. In all cases in which the dose was not too weak for the constitution, it always has within a few minutes caused headache and an alteration of the pulse.

The first experiments developing the kind of headache, being in the highest degree a throbbing one, lead me to the examination of the pulse, and in all cases the pulse was altered.

It is thus of the highest importance to observe most accurately the pulse before and during the experiment, and continue this even after it has returned to the former state. Very

often, a second new series of symptoms follows. The effects are sometimes like a wave going first up, and after some time down.—This has often been overlooked, and is thus not sufficiently proved.

One of the first observers (Dr. Jeanes) discovered the influence of the motions of the head on the pain, and one of the last provers (Dr. Rhees) the influence of the position of the body on the frequency of the pulse. Every prover has to regard all this hereafter.

The experiments commencing in winter, and being continued during summer, have shown the importance of the temperature, and since (Dr. Williamson) we had to add the state of the thermometer, and we must wish a repetition of the experiments by the same provers at different seasons.

The first observer, the chemist, Mr. Morris Davis, who prepared the Glonoine first in this country, has made interesting remarks about the influence on the perceptive faculties and it is to be hoped, that among the further provings this may be corroborated. His experiment on a cat, and mine on a frog, perfectly independent of each other, agree with regard to the kind of convulsions produced.

It was not without great difficulty, that a sufficient quantity of Glonoine was obtained. The successful operator, Doctor Zumbrock, had to suffer a nearly constant headache for weeks, augmenting at the same time the symptoms, while inventing the easiest and most certain method of preparation.

Let us now unite all our efforts; I can give every one who is willing to prove it a sufficient quantity. One drop is enough to make a long series of experiments. Animals require more. A frog did not die until he was forced to swallow 10 drops; a cat showed decided symptoms after swallowing 4 drops, and was well next day; another cat was killed by 3 drops. The strongest dose we have given to man was 1-10 drop. The provers took sugar globules moistened with Glonoine, each pellet containing on its surface about 1-5000 of a drop, thus 5 globules 1-1000, 50=1-100, 500=1-10. The provers have generally taken from 10 to 20 up to 40, 50, or 200 globules for a dose, only a few 1-10 drop.

Repetitions as soon as the effect seems to pass over, which is the case from 20 minutes to one hour—have produced more remarkable symptoms, but it is a purer observation to take a sufficiently strong dose at once, and observe

as long as possible every change even to the next day.

As antidote, I proposed according to theory, the common coffee as a drink, which has relieved very much in several cases. Dr. Zumbrock tried camphor with success for the first more violent symptoms. Dr. Gardiner removed his sick headache by *Nux vom.* It would be important to know the effect *Aconite* may have on the symptoms, and if not relieving, how it modifies the same.

To such of our colleagues as may be willing to prove or find others who will do it, I allow myself to recapitulate the following points.

1. Mention the day and temperature.
2. The time of the day it is taken, and during the first hour of the proving every symptom by the minute. The pulse to be observed, if not continually, every minute or two.
3. The exact direction of each pain or other feelings, the locality exact.
4. Influence of motions, especially of the head on the headache, of position, &c., on the pulse.
5. Influence of heat or cold; for instance cold water on the headache, or the pulse; the heat of the above on the headache, &c.
6. What influence has breathing on the headache or pulse; is a difference during inhalation and exhalation, holding breath with the lungs full of air or empty.
7. If there is any alteration on the perceptive faculties, &c.

As *Glonoine* is very volatile, care should be taken to have the bottles always well closed.

Glonoine may be had at Rademacher's, Philadelphia, William Radde, and J. S. T. Smith in New York.

CONSTANTINE HERING.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

Cleveland, O., March 9th, 1849

TO PROF. JARED P. KIRTLAND:

Dear Sir: To be found differing from high medical authority implies an unenviable position, and nothing except a strong sense of duty can or ought to be pled as an apology for so doing. Situated as you are in a Medical School, a teacher, you are presumed to be intimately acquainted with Medical Science, sifted and purified from all its intrinsic ac-

companiments, and your opinions are naturally enough looked upon and received as correct, and worthy of being relied upon. This fact alone justifies all who choose, to submit their views of your published opinions, as publically as they have been proclaimed, and to examine them fairly and impartially. Medical Science is not written in a sealed book, but is open for the investigation of all, and honest differences of opinion may well be tolerated, until the time shall arrive when all men, respecting it, shall think and act alike. We may therefore be excused if we refer to what we think objectionable or untrue in your late introductory lecture delivered before the class at the Western Reserve Medical College, and if you do not "coincide" with us, you will we trust, at least, concede to us honesty of purpose. In justice to yourself we will say, that with the exception of your plain and unmistakeable denunciations against homœopathy, and your misconceptions of the discovery claimed in your lecture, there is but little found that is objectionable. Your supposed discovery of this new doctrine of the coinciding tendencies of medicine, has led you into error relative to its real discoverer, and no doubt strongly inclined you to the belief that it is a doctrine peculiar to your school. But Sir, this is untrue. It is essentially a homœopathic doctrine, and we take this opportunity to thank you, not only for admitting it true, but for the effort made to sustain it before the public, regretting only, that your views of it were not more clear and practical, and that you did not "give honor to whom honor is due." All this however, we can readily overlook in view of the aid you have given us, and the consideration that your mind might have been unduly biased by hoisting upon it suddenly the flood gates of light. This is no uncommon occurrence in the night of mist with which your school is confessedly enveloped. The gem that illumines not unfrequently obscures the vision and at the moment throws darkness upon every thing around it. The experience of every well read physician teaches him the value of a truth in medicine, and leads him to regard it as a prize above all price, and should he dress it up in a fantastic garb for the sake of improving its first appearance, he should not be regarded as *ostentatious*, but applauded for his appreciation of it. You will not understand me as affirming that there are

no facts in your school, there are many. But do you and the school to which you belong, teach how to use them? You complain of Homœopathy, Hydropathy, Thompsonianism, and indeed of every mode of treating diseases, not excepting even the legion presented in Allopathy, down to domestic and patent remedies, or placebos, as you are pleased to call them. What then is the inference? Is it not, that all these modes of cure, not predicated on the doctrine of the coinciding tendencies of medicines, are wrong, and that the doctrine thus taught is only right? If so (and who can otherwise decide) this doctrine must supplant all others, and we think you are bound under your professions of love for it, and confidence in it, to teach all the facts necessarily connected with it. Let us now see how you get along with it, and how much you appreciate its importance in a practical point of view. You first aver that "remedies will coincide if not adapted to the fulfilment of the indications." By the word coincide, you say you mean "acts with the disease, aggravates the disease or produces fictitious disease." In your attempt to enforce this proposition, we understand you to say, that acute diseases are either "athenic" or "asthenic" not in the sense of the old writers, but in view of the essential symptoms, and requires appropriate and peculiar application of the means for cure. From this, three things should be made to appear to maintain the position, and render it practically useful.

First, the power of drugs should be known.

Second, the law of application should be known.

Third, the quantity of medicine necessary to cure, should likewise be known, as in opposition to their coinciding tendencies, or disease creating effects.

Now sir, do you, or your colleagues teach the class that the power of drugs must act in the peculiar manner required by the doctrine to fulfil the indications? or in other words, specifically and within disease creating limits? Certainly not in the lecture, and equally certain not in the books of your school. All that we can glean from the lecture on this point is summed up in the caution to watch the effect of drugs after they have been taken into the stomach, and if they or it "coincide" stop giving them. You neglect, however, to inform your class how the consequences of this coinciding tendency thus set up, may be

arrested, or how to avoid a similar disaster from the next remedy that is substituted for it. The examples you cite are too general to become either safe or useful. How are you to know, and how are your class to know, when the means are appropriate, and "fulfil the indications," only in so far as the results of an empirical trial of them show? Suppose you do know that Capsicum and Quinine stimulate in asthenic diseases, or that Neutral Salts, Antimonials and the Lancel set up a contrary action, or an analogous general action in athenic diseases, it does not enable you to adapt your remedies in either case to the "fulfilment of the indications," under your definition of the two conditions. On the contrary, there must be a specific application in pursuance of the doctrine, or the words athenic and asthenic must have the full force originally given them, and of course merge the idea of specificity into the general idea of depleting and giving tone, so that after all, your students are only nominally in possession of the law, without knowing how to conform their practice to it. To remedy this evil, you and your school should teach the power of drugs, the law of application, and the means by which to determine the quantity to cure and not coincide. Allow us to ask you again, if you or your school impart this kind of information to your class? If so, you surpass, as above stated, in almost every particular the teachings of those who write your *Materia Medica*s. The first thing taught in those books, direct remedies, in the treatment of athenic diseases, with a view to the reduction of the forces of life, and the opposite in the class of asthenic diseases. Before closing this letter, permit us to say, examine a little in detail the facts in reference to the discoverer and enunciator of this doctrine of coinciding tendencies of medicines. You say on page 5th of your lecture, that "attention seems however to have been directed exclusively to their curative powers, (referring to medicines) while their coinciding tendencies have been overlooked."

These tendencies have never been observed by any sect of irregular practitioners, nor by community at large, and too frequently have been disregarded by members of the regular profession. On page 8th of your lecture, you denominate homœopathy an absurdity; clearly meaning, that it is classed in your mind as belonging to irregular practice. Now Sir, your statements above made, are

true, or they are untrue; if true, the honor and glory of the discovery belong to you and yours; if untrue, then you stand before the world, the author of a mis-statement, thereby claiming to yourself and school, honors not exclusively your own. That you have made a mis-statement I will now proceed to show. On the 156th and 157th pages of Hahnemann's Organon you will find the following enunciation of the doctrine of the coinciding tendencies of medicine. "But although it is certain that a homœopathic remedy administered in a small dose, quietly annihilates the disease which is analogous to it, without producing its other non-homœopathic symptoms, that is to say, without exciting other and grievous sufferings, it often happens, notwithstanding that it produces at the expiration of one or a few hours after ingestion, (according to the dose) a state something less favorable, which resembles the primitive affection so closely, that the patient supposes the original disease is aggravated. But in reality, it is nothing more than a medicinal disease extremely similar to the primitive one, and rather more intense in its nature." Again, in a note on the same pages, he says: This preponderance of the symptoms of the remedy over the analogous symptoms of the disease, which looks like an increase of the natural malady, has also been observed by other physicians when chance led them to a homœopathic medicine. When the patient afflicted with itch, after having taken Sulphur, complains that the cutaneous eruption grows worse, the physician who is ignorant of the cause, consoles him by saying, that the itch comes out entirely before it can be cured; but he is not aware that it is an exanthema caused by the Sulphur, which assumes an appearance of aggravated itch. Leroy informs us that the Viola Tricolor commenced its action by rendering the cutaneous eruption of the face worse, of which it subsequently effected a cure. But he did not know that the apparent increase of the evil was caused solely by the administration of too large a dose of the remedy, which in this instance turned out to be homœopathic, or in other words, applied in pursuance of the law of their coinciding tendencies. Lysons, (See Med. Trans., Vol. 11, London) says that skin diseases which yield with the greatest certainty to Elm Bark, are those which it increases in the first instance. If he had not according to the prevailing custom of the Allopathic school, administered

the bark of the elm in two large doses, but if, as its homœopathic character requires, it had been given in extremely small doses, the exanthema against which he prescribed it would have been cured without experiencing this increase of intensity, or at least it would have been subject to very slight development."

Were it not for extending this letter, numerous other instances might, and would be quoted in proof that this doctrine is not new to the homœopathic school, but is one of the cardinal features in it, and that it is the doctrine which Hahnemann proclaimed, first, after his discovery of the power of drugs, which eventually led to the use of small doses, which you and your school so much affect to despise. The chief difference between your enunciation of this doctrine, and Hahnemann's, consists in the exceedingly imperfect manner in which you have done it, and the clear and concise manner in which he has laid it before the world. You seem to have had but a glimpse of it, while *his* mighty intellect grasped all its practical bearings, and assigned to it its legitimate and scientific position in the profession. Here allow me to ask you what possible practical advantage can this law, (for such it is) afford the student or practitioner, if left where you leave it? To my mind it is evident, that if the whole range of drug power is not carefully adapted to the law in quality as well as quantity, and applied within conservative limits, the law itself can avail nothing. The use of the law presupposes the existence of this kind of knowledge, otherwise the practitioner cannot know when the disease he is treating, becomes worse, that it is not the natural morbid influence at work, instead of the medicine he has administered. Therefore, you will perceive that the physician, must know how to distinguish between the disease, creating causes, and the action of the drug he administers, otherwise he cannot know which is doing the mischief, and consequently cannot know how to apply the conservative influence of his law, or indeed, whether he may use it all.

Yours respectfully,

C. D. WILLIAMS.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3, of this Journal, at \$1 each, may be obtained at 762 Broadway. We have no Agents. The amount of subscription may be sent to the Editor, 762 Broadway.

*Annual Medical Report to the Board of Trustees of the N. York Homœopathic
Dispensary Association.*

Names of Diseases.	Number of patients.	Left improved.	Left without amend.	Under Treatment.	Discharged incurable.	Result unknown.	Cured.
Abuse of mercury,	1					1	
Amaurosis,	1					1	
Amenorrhœa,	11	2		1		4	4
Anasarca,	1					1	
Angina,	2			1			1
Aphonia,	1						1
Ascarides,	1						1
Ascites,	2			1			1
Asthma,	3			1		1	1
Bronchitis, acute and chronic,	21	3	1	1		9	7
Carditis,	2			2			
Caries,	2		1	1			
Capsular cataract, and strabismus,	1				1		
Caries of lower jaw, by mercury,	1						1
Catarrh, acute and chronic,	6						6
Catarrhal fever,	1						1
Cephalagia,	11					1	7
Cholera infantum,	5	1	2			1	3
Chorea,	1					1	
Conjunctivitis,	1						1
Constipation,	1						1
Contusio,	2					1	2
Convulsions,	1						
Cough,	1						1
Cystitis,	1			1			
Delirium tremens,	1						1
Diabetes,	1					1	
Diarrhœa, acute and chronic,	16	3				4	9
Dysecoia,	1						
Dysmenorrhœa,	4			1		2	1
Dyspepsia,	40	11		1		4	23
Dysentery,	5	1		2		1	3
Ecthyma,	1	1					
Emissions, nocturnal,	1						
Enteritis, acute,	1			1			1
Epilepsy,	2						1
Epistaxis,	1			2		3	1
Eruptions,	4						1
Exostosis,	1					1	
Febris, gastrica,	1						5
—— intermittent,	5						2
—— typhoid,	2						2
—— versatilis,	2						1
Fistula in ano,	1						1
Fracture of ulna,	1						2
Fractured femur,	2						1
Gastralgia,	1					1	3
Gastritis,	4						1
Gleet,	1						
Gleet, and varicocele,	1			1			1
Gonorrhœa,	3			2			
Gutta rosea,	1	1				1	1
Hæmoptysis,	3	1					2
Hæmorrhoids,	3			1			1
Hepatitis,	1						2
—— chronic,	4	1				1	
Herpes,	1					1	1
Hypertrophy of tonsils,	1						1
Hysteria,	1						
Inflammation of fascia,	2			1		1	

Names of Diseases.	Number of patients.	Left improved.	Left without amend.	Under Treatment.	Discharged incurable.	Result unknown.	Cured.
Influenza,	3	1					2
Injuria,	1						1
Injuria of chest,	1						1
Laceration of lower lip,	1						1
Laryngitis,	1						
Leucorrhœa,	3	1				1	1
Lumbago,	2					1	1
Maculæ hepaticæ,	1					1	
Menorrhagia,	2	1				1	1
Mercurial erethismus,	1						
Mercurial tonsillitis,	1					1	
Menopsia,	2	1		1			
Monomania,	1			1			
Morbus coxarius,	1					1	
Neuralgia,	8	3		1			
Notalgia,	1		1			2	3
Odontalgia,	5						
Ophthalmia,	8	3				1	4
—— purulent,	1		1			4	1
—— scrofulous,	1			1			
—— chronic,	1	1					
—— tarsi,	1						
—— Egyptian,	1						1
—— syphilitic,	1	1					1
Otorrhœa,	1						
Otitis,	1			1			
Ozæna,	1						1
Palpitatio cordis,	2	1					1
Paralysis,	4						1
—— incipient,	1			1	1	1	1
Parotidea,	2						1
Pertussis,	2					1	2
Pharyngitis,	1	1					1
Phlegmon,	1						
Phthisis, (1 died)	12	4	1	1	1	1	
—— incipient,	21	2		4			1
—— pulmonalis,	7	3				3	1
—— dyspeptica,	1					3	12
Pleurodynia,	1					4	
Pneumonia,	7	1					1
Polypus nasi,	1			1			1
Psoric abscess,	1						5
Psoriasis,	3	2				1	
Pulsation of whole body,	1						1
Ramollissement,	1				1	1	
Rheumatismus,	6	3				1	
—— acute,	12						
—— chronic,	12	4				1	2
—— mercurial,	2			2		4	8
Rheumatism of chest,	2			1		3	3
—— periostous,	1						1
Salt Rheum,	1						
Scabies,	3	1		1		1	
Schirrus mammæ,	1						
Sciatica,	1			1			
Scrofula,	10				1	2	
Scrofulous ulceration,	2	2		2		3	3
Spasmus ventriculi,	1						
Sprue,	1						1
Sternalgia,	2						1
Stomatitis,	2						2
Syphilis, secondary,	2						2
Tinea capitis,	3			1			1
Tonsillitis,	4			2			1
Tumor,	1					1	3
Tussis verminosa,	1						1

Names of Diseases.	Number of patients.	Left improved.	Left without amend.	Under Treatment.	Discharged incurable.	Result unknown.	Cured.
Tussis convulsiva periodica,	1						1
Ulcer,	1						1
Ulcer crura,	3	1		1		1	1
Ulceration of cornea,	1	1					
Urinary calculus,	1	by operation,					1
Urticaria,	1					1	
Uterine tumor,	1					1	
Vaccina,	1						1
Vaginal ulceration,	1			1			
Vertigo,	1						1
Vesiculæ,	2					2	
Vulnus,	1						1
Total,	407	66	7	45	5	91	192

It is proper to state, in connection with this report, that the fourteen Physicians in attendance at the Dispensary are divided into classes; and one day in a week is allotted to each class. Each Physician has his own patients who attend only on his day, except in instances of acute diseases. The patients who have been treated, and included in the statistical table, were mostly suffering from chronic diseases of long standing; and all of them had been inmates of hospitals, or had been treated at other dispensaries, or in private practice.

When patients have been relieved, or cured, they frequently fail to report the result of the treatment. The Patrons of the Institution are therefore earnestly requested to urge upon those they recommend for treatment, the importance of attending to this duty.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.
 EDWARD BAYARD, M. D.
 S. B. BARLOW, M. D.
 B. F. JOSLIN, M. D.
 R. A. SNOW, M. D.
 B. F. BOWERS, M. D.
 Jno. A. McVICKAR, M. D.

JOHN TAYLOR, M. D.
 CLARK WRIGHT, M. D.
 R. W. BOLLES, M. D.
 JAS. H. ALLEN, M. D.
 JOHN HAWKS, M. D.
 H. HULL CATOR, M. D.

Results of homœopathic treatment of the Asiatic Cholera in 1830 and 1831, published by Andrew Mordvinow, President of the Imperial State Council, at St. Petersburg.

	Sick.	Cured.	Died.
In several villages and hamlets in the government of Saratow,	625	564	61
On the estate of Mr. Lvoff, " "	50	50	—
Do. do Stalipin, " "	13	12	1
Do. do Povalichin, " "	38	36	2
Do. do Bituitsky, " "	19	16	3
Do. Baron Bode, " "	188	177	11
In the city of Saratow,	39	36	3
In the gymnasium of the same city,	20	20	
In a Don Cosack villiage,	59	53	6
In two settlements on the Caucasus line,	85	67	15
Two estates of Messrs. Tulinev and Poltoratzky, in the government of Tambow,	92	87	5
Estate of Poltoratzky in the government of Twer,	45	44	1
Total,	1273	1162	108

Ratio of deaths not quite *nine* in a hundred.

CAUSES & HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF THE CHOLERA.

Including Repertories for this disease, and for Vomiting, Diarrhœa, Cholera Infantum and Dysentery. By B. F. Joslin, M. D. Published by Wm. Radde, New York, 1849. 18mo, pp. 144. Price 50 cents.

A few years ago we were careful to read everything that appeared on the subject of the Cholera; but so many works on that disease were published, and in such quick succession, we became satiated, and ceased to notice them, as we found little or nothing new, especially in regard to the treatment of that destroyer of human life. The work before us is the most interesting we ever read, for it furnishes rules for the treatment of the Cholera so plain, that it cannot fail to be invaluable to the practitioner; not only so, but it contains information of the course necessary to be pursued in the selection of remedies in homœopathic practice in all diseases.

The work is divided into: Nature and Pathology of the Cholera. Ætiology, especially of the *Predisposing* or *occasional causes*. Doctrine of Infection. Hygiene and Prophylaxis. History of treatment. Early treatment. Symptoms and Treatment of the varieties of the Cholera. Symptoms and treatment of the stages of the Cholera. Cholera repertory, for symptoms and groups, with the values of the medicines distinguished. Gastric and Intestinal Repertory; *Auxiliary to the Cholera, Repertory, and adapted to Vomiting, Diarrhœa, Cholera Infantum and Dysentery.*

Dr. Joslin is an exact writer, every word he employs seems to have been most carefully considered, so that his meaning may not be doubtful. His concluding remarks on the pathology of the Cholera, are in our opinion correct, and their truthful force should be felt by the profession, especially at this time, when pathological investigations have become a sort of monomania. Dr. J. says:

“Although, neither the physiology of respiration, the chemistry of normal blood, nor the chemical pathology of Cholera, is so complete, as to justify any positive opinion as to the precise time, nor any complete theory of the manner, in which these changes commence. Indeed, the pathogeny of most diseases is obscure: and pathology seldom detects the first links in the chain of morbid phenomena. In Cholera, it can hardly be considered more fortunate with respect to some

of the subsequent ones. There is no complete theory; and I do not offer the above as such.

Fortunately for mankind, Hahnemann has discovered a law of cure which is not based upon pathological speculations. The want of such a law and of any reliable guide, is the real cause of the want of unanimity and—I may say—the uncertainty, confusion and anarchy, that prevails in the allopathic school. These have, in the case of no disease, been more conspicuous than in relation to Cholera, and never more so than at the present time.”

The chapter on the “doctrine of infection” is the best we have seen. We make a short extract, viz:

“The terms contagion and infection—as now extensively used in a technical sense—serve only to conceal the want of precise ideas, and the defects of a false mode of reasoning. Whence the disputes and hesitation of learned academies—and of the medical world generally—in relation to this subject? In my opinion, this confusion, disagreement, and indcision, arise from not viewing the subject in a mathematical point of view, that is, in its relation to the science of *quantity*. The popular mind is prone to inquire about the *existence* of certain *things* or entities, rather than their quantitative relations. It asks, is there infection in this disease or in that? It does not think to inquire, whether there is *more* or *less* infecting power. It does not suspect that this is the only difference in many diseases in regard to their power of propagating themselves. The medical mind—perhaps from deficiency of mathematical training—is extensively infected with this same intellectual vice. Physicians instead of recognizing degrees in the infecting power, generally found their distinctions on modes and media of transmission. Again, instead of recognizing a great diversity—as they would if they had hit on the true principle of distinction—they assume that all except a few diseases are incommunicable under any circumstances; and through those that they acknowledge capable of propagation, they arbitrarily draw a single line, and denominate the whole group on one side of that line contagious, and the whole group on the other side infectious. They have not yet perceived that what they call infection—considered as a property of the disease—is merely the contagious property in less intensity.”

Dr. J. then proceeds to notice briefly, but comprehensively and clearly, the indefiniteness of the problem; the influence of dilution; the influence of dose; the routes and modes in which the Cholera travels, and the influence of susceptibility. But that which is the most valuable in the volume under notice, is the treatment of the Cholera and the Reper-

tory. The latter of itself, is worth ten times, the price of the book: and for the Repertory, if for nothing else, every physician should secure a copy. Dr. Joslin evidently has unusual skill in the Repertory department, and we hope he will be induced to furnish the profession with a complete work of this kind, which is so much needed by every practitioner. The very best work on the practice of medicine would be a full Repertory, on the plan of the one here noticed.

REPORTING CASES.

"Make your Journal more practical," says a correspondent; "give us cases treated homœopathically, that the same diseases treated allopathically may be compared with them, so that unbelievers may be convinced of the superiority of homœopathic practice." This looks plausible, and yet we doubt if any one would embrace homœopathy if we were to fill our Journal with cases. Has any one been led to a change of faith in medicine from the numerous cases reported by Henderson, although we wish it understood that we never regarded him as much of a homœopath. The ignorance of the leading men of the profession in Europe of homœopathy, was never more apparent than when they denounced Prof. Henderson for being fully inducted into our school. He had a glimpse of the truth, but his pathological doctrines would never allow him to prescribe in accordance with the law of cure, except by accident, as allopaths sometimes do, as for example, when they treat some cases of Influenza with small doses of *Tart. Emetic.* The numerous cases reported by Dr. Currie, exhibiting probably the best examples of the practice, have never attracted much attention. Such publications are almost always rejected, for want of confidence in him who reports them, or if this does not exist, then a severe, and often an unfair criticism, will effectually repel their force.

We ourselves reported a case of clearly marked *Traumatic Tetanus*, which we treated successfully. We took pains to examine Sir Astley Cooper on that disease, and the description he gives of it, corresponded so completely with our case, that we thought we risked nothing in naming it as above. But it was denied by more than one eminent surgeon, and the family who at first regarded it a most remarkable cure, through such influ-

ence, look upon it now, as having been only an ordinary case of rheumatism. One physician told us that he was certain it "was not *Tetanus*, because it got well."

Therefore, comparing the details of cases by the two modes of treatment, we do not believe would amount to much, in spreading a knowledge of homœopathy.

Another of our correspondents, wants such reports of cases for models, to treat similar cases—this is all wrong. A well instructed physician requires nothing of the sort. He carefully notes the phenomena of the case he is about to treat; then with a clear view of the law of cure, he consults the pathogenesis of drugs, until he finds one that corresponds to the case; which is the remedy, and then he knows a favorable result will be obtained.

That physician who will most carefully note all the symptoms of a case of sickness, and not permit his mind to be influenced by any of the false speculations in pathology and diagnosis, but confine his attention to the actual phenomena of the case before him, and will then select a medicine which shall correspond in similarity, in its positively known effects in the human system; and will administer such medicine carefully prepared, in the smallest dose, and will patiently wait, and critically mark the minutest change in the symptoms of the disease, he will, in nineteen cases out of twenty, as a general thing, not be disappointed in the result. Within a few days, we had a patient to whom we administered for several days without success. In fact, he grew worse. Being thus thwarted in what we at first thought a very plain case, we applied our mind more closely to it, and at length discovered a drug, which was almost a *similimum*; and a single dose, not only afforded relief in an hour, but actually effected a cure in forty-eight hours.

Practical matter in the homœopathic school consists mainly in defining and illustrating principles. We claim that we have done much of this in the columns of this Journal, and we intend to do more. No one can move a step in the practice of our art, unless its principles are clearly perceived and comprehended. These must be ever present to the mind, so that any suggestion from whatever quarter, may instantly be determined true or false by testing them, by those positively known laws which a good God has mercifully revealed to man, to enable him to employ such means as will afford prompt relief to his

sufferings. "*Like cures Like*," is a law not capable or susceptible of change; and being such, no cure can possibly take place by virtue of any other principle. Here then, is a real foundation, and on it we can stand. He who attempts to apply this law on *pathological*, instead of *symptomatical* indications will utterly fail. How can *pathology* furnish principles of cure? Here is the leading blunder of the allopathic school. It has worked away at dead bodies for hundreds of years to form a true pathology, all the time seeking through it, to obtain principles of cure; but it has completely failed to accomplish this object, and human maladies are no better treated now in that school, than they were two thousand years ago; and no improvement can take place, so long as *pathology* is made the basis of cure. Therefore, we are liable to fall into the error, as many have done, by acknowledging the law of cure, but using allopathic tools to work it. We cannot pursue this subject further at this time, but we shall have occasion to recur to it again.

Tobacco vs. Cholera.—Dr. John W. Moore states, in a Mobile paper that he cured one hundred or more extreme cases of the Cholera, *not losing* one, by the use of *Tobacco*. He gave it in the form of an enema, and also in some instances internally by the stomach. "He has no doubt but that Cholera may be as easily managed as the fever of our country." What next?—*Annalist*.

The above is the only sensible mode of treatment of the Cholera, we have met with in the allopathic school, and yet it does not appreciate the value of the remedy employed by Dr. Moore in that disease. Perhaps Dr. M. is not one of the oligarchy. *Tobacco* will cure the Cholera in small attenuated doses, after the copious evacuations had been relieved by *Veratrum*; constant paroxysms of nausea, being at times more violent, with cold sweat, occasional vomiting, oppression of the stomach, some anguish and restlessness, cramp and tearing in the limbs. If the Cholera should prevail among us, we hope *Tobacco* as a remedy will not be overlooked. We urge it upon the attention of allopaths, as it comes recommended by one of their own number. Is there anything absurd about the remedial efficacy of *Tobacco* in Cholera, Mr. Annalist, that induced you to ask "what next?" Did you suspect the presence of *similia similibus*? Your suspicions were well founded.

CHOLERA.

The following have just reached us from London, viz:

"The acting Committee of the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary of the results of the homœopathic treatment of the Asiatic Cholera in Edinburgh, from the 8th to the 27th October, 1848. Immediately on the appearance of the disease in that city, Drs. Russell, Wielobycki, Lyschinski, and Sutherland, assisted by Drs. Atkin and Dr. Cockburn, resolved to relieve each other in attendance at the homœopathic dispensary at all hours day and night, during its prevalence, with the view to render aid in every case in which they might be applied to, and the reports thus far show 61 cases treated, with only 17 deaths, or about twenty-eight per cent; while the allopathic reports of the Police authorities show 77 deaths out of 121 cases, or sixty-four per cent."

West London Homœopathic Dispensary.

Since the address was printed, a report of the Committee of the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary has been received, containing the following statement respecting the number of cases of Cholera that have come under their care, from the 8th to the 27th of October, 1848.

Total number, 77. Recovered, 40. Died, 17. Sent to Infirmary, 13—(These patients were sent to the Infirmary in consequence of being without food, clothing, and fuel; domestic treatment, without the necessities of life, being of course hopeless).—Otherwise removed, 3. Under Treatment, 4.

The great success of homœopathy will be evident on comparing this statement with the official account of cases of Cholera in Edinburgh, ascertained by the Surgeon of Police, from the 4th to the 29th of the same month.

Cases, 136. Deaths, 86. Recoveries, 15. Remaining, 35.

Mortality under homœopathic treatment, about 30 per cent.

Mortality under allopathic treatment, about 86 per cent.

We can't attend as we desire, to the Annalist in this number. He mistakes us in an essential point. We are not a partisan in the worst sense of that word, as the Annalist's article taken as a whole represents us. A

strict partisan would conceal the weak points, and the rotten parts of his party: we have never done so, nor ever will. The difficulty under which the Annalist labors, in regard to us, is owing either to a want of information of the doctrines and practice of our school, or he is himself a partisan in its worst sense. We would inform our neighbor, of what perhaps he is not aware of, that many in Europe and in this country, who were sent forth from allopathic colleges most miserably educated, and who were never particularly favored by nature or grace for the work of treating the sick, have sought admission into the homœopathic school, and although not acknowledged by those who know them, yet they call themselves homœopaths, and their mode of practice is very useful for journalists of allopathy, to enable them to pen articles against what they, in charity we are bound to think, deem homœopathy, but which has little or nothing to do with it.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOMŒOPATHY.

The American Institute of Homœopathy, will hold its usual annual meeting in Philadelphia, on the second Wednesday in June next. It is hoped that the assemblage on that occasion will be large. We understand that an unusually large number of physicians will attend from this city and state. It has also been intimated to us, that Ohio will be represented by a large number. We would urge the attention of every practitioner of homœopathy to the Institute, and hope he will not fail to avail himself of the privilege of becoming a member. The translation of Hahnemann's *Materia Medica*, was proposed last year, and a committee appointed for that purpose, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining a publisher of the work, we doubt if any progress has been made by the committee. Now, if every homœopathic practitioner would join the Institute, there would be funds enough to not only issue the above named *Materia Medica*, but other publications of value. Our colleagues in England are now engaged in securing funds to enable their association to bring out works on medicine. With all due respect to our brethren of the homœopathic school, we do not think our zeal, as a general thing, is sufficiently intense in the great work of medical reform;

there should be more sacrifice of time and money, in the great cause of homœopathy. The Institute can be made the instrument of accomplishing much good, if all would join it. It has done much already, but we wish to see homœopathic practitioners, throughout our country, enrolled members of it, and each one with singleness of purpose, labor according to his ability, for the general good of medical science and art.

Dr. Joslin will deliver the annual Address. This alone should command a large attendance. We regret that we have not received from the Committee on "Examination of Candidates" a notice of their arrangements for the above meeting, perhaps it was not necessary. We will answer for it, that the committee will be in session, on the afternoon and evening previously to the day of the meeting of the Institute.

"LEGITIMATE MEDICINE."

"Legitimate medicine" is a term invented in Europe a few years ago by allopaths, and monopolized by the allopathic school in this country, as expressive of itself. It seems to be employed on the same principle as quack medicine merchants label their nostrums: as "Pulmonary Liniment," "Pulmonary Embrocation," "Pain Extractor," "Hunters Red Drop," "Venus Pills," &c., &c.

"*Legitimate medicine*" is therefore a label for allopathic physicians; pasted on them by Medical Journals, and the American Medical Association, to let the people know where genuine medicine, or real medicine may be obtained.

The New York Academy of Medicine is a fair specimen of "legitimate medicine." It not only has had the label pasted on it as a body by Medical Journals, but it has gone further, and placed its members in the New York Directory, and in the Daily Newspapers with the label upon their backs. As all associations, and all persons have the right to select their own names, and as allopaths appear to have pretty generally agreed to change theirs, we have no objections that these should be known and distinguished hereafter, throughout all creation as "legitimate medicine." What is in a name?—A good deal. Shrewd fellows those *legitimists*.

ACTION OF NATURE IN DISEASE.

"The medical world may now be considered divided into two great parties, the first consisting of those who look upon the symptoms of disease, in almost all cases, as something to be "beaten down" by "energetic" measures; and the second, comprising those who look upon symptoms as furnishing indications of efforts of nature, which should, for the most part, be suffered to proceed to their ordinary terminations. It will be supposed that between bodies entertaining such opposite views, an active warfare must be looked for; but although this supposition is, in some measure, borne out, since warfare of the most determined kind is now waging in the profession, it takes a direction different from what might have been looked for, and which, to non-medical persons, will appear wholly unaccountable.

Instead of each of the two parties just described collecting their respective adherents, and fighting on the broad principle between them, the second party (those who recognize symptoms as the efforts of nature) is broken up into two portions, and one of these portions is actually more bitter in its hostility to the remaining part of its own body, than is the party which may be regarded as its natural enemy, and which contends that symptoms should be beaten down; so strong, in fact, is this feeling, that a sort of offensive alliance is recognized between the two differing bodies, in which it is contracted, that while each puts forward its respective and opposite opinions, the great effort shall be to make these heterogeneous views both perform the same work, namely, that of crushing the section which, entertaining to the fullest extent the principle contended for by the second party, has the misfortune under the ban of these, its proper friends, on account of some unexplained prejudice.

The section against which the combined movement is carried on, consists of the homœopathic practitioners. The theory of this practice is, that all the actions which we term "symptoms," and which are manifested during disease, are merely so many salutary processes set up by nature, to remove some morbid cause which is present in the system, and that, consequently, the great effort of the practitioner should be to aid these processes, by administering such medicines as are found to stimulate to the performance of them. Now in contending for this view, the homœopaths, as has been already mentioned, are entitled to look for comfort from a large body of practitioners by whom in its general sense it has, of late, been strictly maintained; yet by some strange and inexplicable perversion, these parties not only openly profess to be their decided opponents, but while in every shape promulgating the homœopathic theory, actually revel in the idea that they are giving the homœopaths "hard hits." They do not go quite to the extent of the homœopathic doctrine, because that doctrine recognizes it to be a principle or a law, that medicines, to yield favorable results, must be given to act

in harmony with the symptoms; but they contend that, in a large majority of cases, the efforts of nature are salutary, and that no reform in medicine will be effected until this is so generally admitted, that practitioners, instead of resorting to a violent and perturbing medication, shall rather seek to wait upon Nature—to pause where they do not see how they can assist her, and to offer aid upon all possible occasions. Their only clear difference with the homœopaths consists in the circumstance, that while the homœopaths contend that Nature is never on any pretext to be opposed, these gentlemen assert that she must occasionally be subjected to a check, since, although on the whole she means well, and for the most part knows what she is about and can unite fractured bones, heal up wounded parts, call into action new organs when others are injured or destroyed, and, in short perform so much, that for centuries the theory of a sentient principle superintending the functions of the body has always, more or less, been entertained, she sometimes runs into excesses, which, if she possessed their knowledge, she would not be likely to commit. Now, this difference is not a wide one, and as it is simply grounded on what appears, at all events, to be nothing worse than timidity or modesty on the part of the homœopaths, it is hard to see why these practitioners should be so bitterly opposed, or whence the delusion could have arisen, that to multiply proofs of the curative powers of nature will be the sure way of accelerating their fall.

Progress of Hom.

PRETENSIONS OF ALLOPATHIC PRACTICE.

"Let us inquire then, in the first place, what are the just pretensions of the prevalent or allopathic practice to certainty and safety; what title it has, on the whole, taking together all the cases in which it is followed, and all the physicians who follow it, to be regarded as a method in which we should confide, and with which we ought to be content, of prolonging life, counteracting disease, and alleviating or preventing pain. We cannot do better, in this inquiry, than to take the declarations of men who have devoted the labor of their lives to this practice, and who, if any could, should be able to pronounce his eulogy,

Boerhave, an illustrious name in medicine, uses the following remarkable language:

'If we compare the good which half a dozen true disciples of Æsculapius have done since their art began, with the evil which the immense number of doctors have inflicted upon mankind, we must be satisfied that it would have been infinitely better for mankind if medical men had never existed.'

But Boerhave, it may be said, lived a hundred years ago, and was himself a reformer in medicine; since his time the methods of the art have become more rational and more safe. Hear then, Dr. Pereira, himself a ve-

hement adversary of the homœopathic practice. In his *Lectures on Pharmacology*, published in 1835, in the *London Medical Gazette*, he says, speaking of the common practice :

‘We can hardly refuse our assent to the observation of the late Sir Gilbert Blane, that in many cases patients get well in spite of the means employed ; and sometimes, when the practitioner fancies that he has made a great cure, we may fairly assume the patient to have had a happy escape.’

Here is a confession of great uncertainty and great danger in the ordinary practice of medicine at the present day. If so many patients recover in spite of improper treatment, how many must perish by improper treatment ; if what is supposed to be a cure by medicine, is sometimes only an escape from its effects, it is equally probable that the deaths which are supposed to be caused by disease, are sometimes caused by the prescriptions of the practitioner. But let us look a little more closely into the nature of this uncertainty and danger, and in doing this, I propose to take as our guide an able writer of the present school of medicine.

Dr. Abercrombie of Edinburgh, an eminent physician, in his book entitled “*Inquiries concerning the Intellectual Powers and the Investigation of Truth*,” remarks that the uncertainty, and of course the danger, of medical practice is principally felt in two respects ; first, in regard to the characters of disease, and secondly, in regard to the remedies employed. Of the first he says :

‘Since medicine was first cultivated as a science, a leading object of attention has been to ascertain the characters or symptoms by which internal diseases are indicated, and by which they are distinguished from other diseases that resemble them. But with the accumulated experience of ages bearing upon this important subject, our extended observation has only served to convince us how deficient we are in this department, and how often, even in the first step in our progress, we are left to conjecture. A writer of high eminence has even hazarded the assertion, that those persons are most confident in regard to the characters of disease whose knowledge is most limited, and that more extended observation generally leads to doubt.’

As to the effect of medicines upon the patient, Dr. Abercrombie remarks :—

‘An equal or even more remarkable uncertainty attends all our researches on the second head to which I have referred, namely, the action of external agents upon the body. These engage our attention in two respects, as causes of disease, and as remedies ; and in both these views the action of them is fraught with the highest degree of uncertainty.’

Observe the terms chosen by this sensible and cautious Scotchman—“the highest degree of uncertainty.” Let me here remark, that

where so much uncertainty exists in regard to the effects of medicines, there must be frequent mischief done by the practitioner. Prescribing, as he must do, according to his best conjectures, he must sometimes prescribe hurtfully, and in such a manner as to occasion the death of his patient. He who shoots in the dark is not only likely to miss his aim, but is in danger of maiming or killing those whom he would gladly spare.

Again, after showing what exactness has been attained in other branches of science ; with what confidence, for example, in chemistry, certain results are expected from certain preparations, and how this confidence is never disappointed, Dr. Abercrombie proceeds to say—

‘With what different feelings [we contemplate a case of dangerous internal disease,—its probable progress and termination, and the effects which our remedies are likely to produce in arresting it—those best can tell who have most experienced them.’

I shall make but one more quotation from this writer, and it is remarkable for the force of its language. He is speaking of the difficulty of making use of previous medical experience.

‘When in the practice of medicine,’ says this acute writer, ‘we apply to new cases the knowledge acquired from other cases which we believe to be of the same nature, the difficulties are so great, that it is doubtful whether in any case we can properly be said to act upon experience, as we do in other branches of science. The difficulties and sources of uncertainty which meet us at every stage of such investigation, are in fact so great and numerous, that those who have the most extensive opportunities of observation will be the first to acknowledge that our pretended experience must in general sink into analogy, and even our analogy too often into conjecture.’

How much truth there is in these remarks, all who have observed with moderate attention the course and results of medical practice can testify. We all know with what confidence the young practitioner begins his career, sure of curing diseases by the methods laid down in his books ; we see him meeting with disappointment after disappointment, and after many failures we find that he has unlearned that confidence, and in its stead has been taught the melancholy lesson of doubt, the wisdom of cautious and wary conjecture, the surest wisdom of the prevalent school of medicine and the parent of its safest practice. We see how often those very prescriptions which are meant for remedies and which are applied with the best lights of the practitioner, are followed by an immediate increase of the malignity of the disease, and probably accelerate death.”—*Bryant on Homœopathy*.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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NEW YORK, JUNE, 1849.

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## FATAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRESENT MODES OF PRACTICE.

If it could be proved that medicine always produces a good effect, so far as it produces any, there might then be some plea for indifference in promoting an inquiry into the real condition of the art, since, however much we might deplore that so little can be done, we should feel that in endeavoring to obtain such benefit as could be gained from it, we were, at all events, free from the danger of causing absolute injury either to ourselves or others. So far, however, from this being the case, it is certain that medical treatment, as it is ordinarily conducted, must always lead to positive results—that is to say, either to injury or benefit—and that in most cases, even where benefit is produced, the advantage must be alloyed by the property of the medicine to generate some new, though perhaps lesser evil.

The student in medicine, perplexed by the

contradictions presented to him regarding almost every agent he is called upon to use, would at length fold his arms in despair, and in a majority of cases forbear to act at all. Perplexity of this kind is, however, rarely acknowledged. Despite the contradictions exhibited, in other respects, there is in a very large class of cases a tolerable conformity of opinion regarding the necessity of blood-letting and mercury, (the former being relied upon to cut short all inflammatory diseases), and hence the doubts of the practitioner, as to the course to be pursued, are in many instances considerably mitigated. According to Dr. Armstrong, "bleeding is the right arm, and mercury the left arm of medicine." As regards other remedies, the remark previously made must be borne in mind, namely, that writers on the practice of medicine forbear, for the most part, from all allusions to the opinions of their predecessors or contemporaries, and prescribe dogmatically in the treatment of diseases, leaving the student to discover how far those prescriptions are likely to succeed. If, therefore, following the advice given by a high medical authority, the student confine himself to only "one work on the practice of medicine," he will not feel those doubts which would arise from a more enlarged course of reading; and even if he should take the trouble to examine and compare the opinions of various writers, so as fully to detect their contradictions, the chances are, that, from amongst the various authorities, he will select for his guide one whose style most commends itself to his mind and in following the instructions of this authority, rest satisfied, whatever may be the result, that he has not acted recklessly. Supposing him therefore called to treat a simple case, such as whooping cough, and that with a view to refresh his memory, he were to turn to his one practical volume, and find such a



paragraph as the following, in relation to this disease, namely,

"Prussic acid is one of the best things. It will not cure the disease, but it does remedy spasmodic irritation of the air passages exceedingly well; and very often better than other narcotics;" or that, in a more serious case, such, for instance, as inflammation of the kidney, he were to find the following,

"The treatment of the disease consists in bleeding at the arm; cupping on the loins,—either alone or after general bleeding; and purging, especially by calomel; putting the patient into a warm bath; and low diet. If the kidneys suppurate, it is necessary to treat it as any other suppuration. We must support the strength, tranquillize the patient by anodynes, and perhaps give 'uva ursi.' Some recommend this drug; but whether it has any particular virtue, I do not know"— \* \* \* he would observe here that no perplexities are expressed, and in the first case, as a matter of course, would give prussic acid if spasmodic irritation presented itself, and in the second, after the free use of blood-letting and mercury, he would doubtless *try* uva ursi. It is therefore vain to expect the majority of medical men to forbear from taking any measures except such as they are *certain* will prove beneficial. Original minds might pursue such a course, but the mass are always disposed to follow precedent, and in every case it is more pleasant to persuade ourselves that we are doing something, than humbly acknowledge ourselves altogether in the dark.

Persons therefore once under medical advice are, for the most part, sure to receive *positive* treatment. Mercury and blood-letting in the majority of cases, and, in other cases, such medicines as may be in vogue for the time, or as may be recommended by the particular authority whom the practitioner happens to have selected as his model. Now with regard to the effects of calomel and the lancet, it is very generally admitted, that even where they arrest the disorder for which they are used, the patient is always a sufferer from their employment,—that although they may in some cases remove an urgent evil, they always leave a new one in its place. Ample testimony of this, with regard to blood-letting, has been long furnished in the anxiety with which medical men seek to find a substitute for its employment. Its evil effects have also been unequivocally acknowledged in some instances, even by those who, in general, have

most strongly contended against timidity in resorting to it. Thus Dr. Elliotson observes, when alluding to the post mortem appearances of the alimentary canal in certain cases of disease "It may happen that the bleedings which were instituted have taken away the redness of the part, and left it perfectly pale; although the powers of life were destroyed by the disease, or—as in some cases—*by the remedies*:" and again, "In the majority of continued fevers which I see, venesection is certainly not necessary, and I am sure that those who employ it extensively in this disease, if they do not *destroy* their patients, yet protract their cases." Sydenham, as we have seen, admitted that it "impairs the strength, and disposes to the attacks of other diseases; and Cullen affirmed that "it could not be often repeated with safety, both because it enfeebled the tone of the system, and tended to produce plethora." Dr. Holland asks, "Is not depletion by bloodletting still too general and indiscriminate in affections of the brain, and especially in the different forms of paralysis? Theory might suggest that in some of these cases, the loss of blood would lead to mischief. Experience undoubtedly proves it, and there is cause to believe that this mischief, though abated of late years, is still neither infrequent nor small in amount." In the *Cyclopædia of Practical Medicine*, (Art. Blood-letting), it is stated, "Amongst the effects of loss of blood must be mentioned that of *sudden and unexpected dissolution*. The patient does not recover from a state of syncope; or, without syncope, he may gradually sink after blood-letting. This event is particularly apt to occur if the patient be bled in the recumbent position. *It has taken the most able and experienced practitioners by surprise.*" M. Magendie, in an introductory lecture to a course of physiology at the College of France, after informing his pupils that under the present system of practice, "disease generally follows its course without being influenced by the medication employed against it," recently observed, with especial reference to bleeding, "If I were to tell you my mind entirely, I should say that it is most especially in the hospitals in which the most active treatment is adopted, that the mortality is the most considerable." Finally, the following remarks by Dr. Tweedie, will illustrate the way in which it is sometimes used, until experience—that is to say, until the death of many human beings—testifies to its impropri-



ety. "Dr. Gordon, Mr. Hey, and Dr. Armstrong, the advocates for large bleedings in all cases, *because they happened to see epidemics that would bear it*, and demanded it, have said that the mortality of the low puerperal fever of London must have arisen from timidity, and not pushing bleeding to a sufficient extent. The earliest experience of the writer in puerperal fever was in too distinct and well marked epidemics in the spring of 1822. From the decided advantage of copious bleeding in the first, we were naturally led to push what is called bold practice in the first cases of the second, but *the result soon proved our rash mistake*. These adynamic cases will not bear bleeding favourably."

But seriously as these statements affect the "right arm of Medicine," there are others, if possible of a stronger kind, in relation to the "left."

Some of the most striking consequences of the action of mercury are mentioned by Dr. Craigie, in his description of an eruptive disorder termed yaws, which has a resemblance to small-pox and occurs among Negroes. "It has long been the fashion," he says, "with many practitioners in the West Indies, to administer mercury in this disease, in large doses. The effects of this is first to cause the sudden disappearance of the eruption, and afterwards to induce a broken or declining state of health, accompanied with dropsy, general wasting, and sometimes the formation of incurable ulcers in various parts of the body. In this manner, too, king's evil in various forms, leprosy, and even cancer, are said to be produced." The same author speaks of its remarkable power when administered in large doses, of irritating the mucous membrane of the intestines, and producing so great a diminution of general strength as to lead to fatal results. Solis, speaking of its administration in cases of hydrocephalus, states, "many times I saw under large and long continued doses of calomel the hydrocephalic symptoms suddenly vanish, and inflammation of the intestines arise and terminate in death." Its occasional effects in the treatment of dropsy have already been pointed out. In a paper by Dr. Wells in the *Medico-Chirurgical Transactions*, it is observed, that "the constitutional irritation caused by mercury may be followed by well marked symptoms of locked jaw." There is also, he says, a form of cutaneous disorder induced by this medicine, which sometimes proves fatal.—

"Every now and then, when persons have taken mercury, they have been seized with great heat of the skin and feverishness. A number of vesicles have appeared. They have spread all over the body; the cuticle has come off; fluid has exuded; and the irritation been so great as to make the patient quite wretched. At the same time, the mucous membrane has become affected; and there is almost always cough. This, however, is not all. I have seen more or less disease of the throat; and frequently vomiting and purging; owing to the mucous membrane which runs from the fauces down into the abdomen, having also been affected."

According to Dr. Christison, "death may ensue from the mildest preparations, and from the smallest doses, in consequence of severe salivation being produced by them in peculiar habits." Dr. Elliotson says "it is *very common* to see persons who have been in the foul wards of an hospital and undergone a considerable administration of mercury fall into a state of phthisis." And the same author, speaking of organic disease of the liver, for which mercury is so commonly administered, further remarks, "we *frequently* break up the patient's constitution without affording him relief." Of the blue-pill he asserts, "If Mr. Abernethy had lived for a hundred years, and done good all the time, he would not have atoned for the mischief he has done by making people take blue-pill. Half the people in England have been led to fancy that they cannot live without blue-pill; which not only does no more good than any other purgative, but likewise renders those who take it constantly susceptible to cold; and must altogether be very injurious."

Finally, from Dr. Marshall Hall, in his work on the Diseases of the Nervous System, (Par 736) we have the following remarks, which apply alike to the "right-arm" and the "left."

"Of the whole number of fatal cases of diseases in infancy, a great proportion occur from this inappropriate or undue application of exhausting remedies. This observation may have a salutary effect in checking the ardour of many young practitioners, who are apt to think, that if they have only bled, and purged, and given calomel enough, they have done their duty; when, in fact, in subduing the former, they have excited a new disease;



which they have not understood, and which has led to the fatal result."

It will be seen, therefore, that while with regard to almost every agent except mercury and blood-letting, there is a wowedly the greatest contrariety of opinion, the uncertainty being not merely as to their doing any good, but as to whether they do not produce the most "pernicious results," it is a fact that these two means, on the use of which alone an approach to unanimity prevails, are very generally recognized as capable but of substituting under the best circumstances, one evil for another; and that although they may, and undoubtedly in many instances do save life, it is too often only on conditions that must render it a burthen:—that not unfrequently, being used where nature herself could have worked a restoration, they leave their consequences without having performed so much as a temporary service—and that also in a large number of cases, which furnish "experience" to the practitioner, the evil of their action is not even thus far limited, but results at once in the destruction of the patient.

To be Continued.

#### INTERMIXTURE OF ALLOPATHIA AND HOMŒOPATHIA.

A few years ago an American Physician, who claims to be of the homœopathic school of medicine, visited Hahnemann in Paris, and subsequently published the conversation he had held with that truly eminent physician. Among other things, Hahnemann stated—*"That the intermixture of allopathia and homœopathia is a subject of great regret; as it must, ultimately, lead to an impure and hazardous system of practice, and to fruitless discussions, already apparent."* Upon this, the physician to whom we refer, made the following comment, which we find republished in the North-Western Journal of Homœopathia, for April, 1849, viz:

"This view, entertained by Hahnemann, has been justly adhered to by him in very many respects; and especially as far as the system might, by such admixture lose the peculiar identity which he has so successfully conferred upon it, after an arduous struggle in its defence; but that homœopaths should not draw from the store-houses of allopathia all that is useful and confirmed by experience, is hardly tenable in the estimation of independent practitioners; the more prominently, as recent illustrations have been

demonstrating that all the important curative agencies in allopathic practice are dependant for their success, upon their application according to the principle of homœopathia.—The adoption of this opinion of Hahnemann would check investigations, and arrest the discussions on which he animadverted. With due deference to the great Reformer, I am constrained, by the force of testimony, to dissent from him in regard to this position, believing that results clearly prove these discussions to have been productive of the highest practical value to humanity, and have led to that admirable and much needed exposition of homœopathia, entitled "Eighteen Theses," by Dr. Wolf of Dresden which were adopted at the "Central Homœopathic Society" of Europe, by a large majority of transatlantic homœopaths, and certain explanations of the system that are appreciable to good common sense, and to capacities organized to scientific observation."

The above proposition by Hahnemann is characteristic of his discrimination, or of the uncommon nice discernment of that great man. While considering it, one feels it to be, almost self evident. After some years of pretty extensive practice, and some small degree of industry in study; we most heartily subscribe to its correctness. How any one, who has experience in the *law of cure* in the treatment of diseases, a law discovered by Hahnemann, and by him alone, could differ from that great luminary in the matter under notice, cannot, we think, be answered with a charitable judgment.

The writer of the above, evidently wished to advocate an intermixture of the two modes of medical practice, but he did not dare to come out fully on that point; consequently, he made the *discussion* of the subject, the most prominent thing in the statement of Hahnemann, while the essential thought was the mixture of the practice of the two schools.

Whoever receives *pathology* as taught in the allopathic school, will find it no easy task to comprehend homœopathia; much less will he be able to practice it. This position was taken by the founder of the system, and it "has been justly adhered to by him." Let us not be misunderstood. Homœopathia many writers have said is a system of "*specifics*," that is, it furnishes remedies for diseases by the names given to them by pathology. Hence the errors into which many fall when they say Aconite is the *specific* for *pneumonia*; *Pulsatilla* for *rubeola*; *Belladonna* for *Scarlatina*; *Arnica* for mechanical injuries; *Mercurius* for *parotitis*; *Aconite*, *Spongia* and *Hepar sulph.* for *cynanche trachealis*, etc. This is not the



language of homœopathia. It does not first fix the name of a disease, and then seek a *specific*; this mode belongs to the allopathic school, and we hope it may be permitted to enjoy that prerogative unmolested. Homœopathia looks most critically at the phenomena of each case of sickness as it actually exists; and selects a corresponding remedy, being guided strictly by the law of *similarity*. Consequently, no theory of disease, no name by which it may be designated, should in any manner influence the practitioner.

What is there in the "store-houses of allopathia" that can be useful in the practice of homœopathia? Hahnemann took all, and placed it in the *Materia Medica pura*, it being a part of his system, and in no sense belonging to allopathia. And now, it is stripped of every thing but what legitimately belongs to it. Allopathia stands out in all its deformity with not a single homœopathic truth, to give it the least degree of beauty or excellence. And yet, there are those, who would endeavor to dress the pernicious system of Galen, in the beautiful garments of the system of Hahnemann, and declare it to be a decided improvement—terming it "*rational*"—represent such a course as "*liberal*," and those who pursue it, as possessing "capacities organized to scientific observation." A mongrel in medicine of all men is the most inconsistent, for he is utterly destitute of any fixed principles, and he cannot be an "independent practitioner." He is only a copyist.

#### BUFFALO MEDICAL JOURNAL.—ITS VERACITY.

The following article appeared first in the "Buffalo Medical Journal;" and has been copied into others either in whole or in part as a delicious morsel for the digestion of allopathic physicians.

"*Veracity of Homœopathists.*—It is a common remark, that "figures cannot lie." This remark, however, was never intended to cover the veracity of those by whom the figures are made. Lying by means of figures, is as feasible as it is common with those, who to promote their own base purposes, are ready to avail themselves of any method of deception which promises success; and no sophistry is so well calculated to deceive as false statistics. Most of our readers probably are aware, that in an article by Dr. Forbes, in one of the expiring numbers of the late British and Foreign Medical Review, (an article which impaired not a little the respect of the profession for the good sense of the author,) the reports of Dr. Fleischman, of the results in

Vienna, were cited as exhibiting a fair test of this method of practice. It turns out as we learn by the London Lancet, that these statistical statements were arrant forgeries. An examination of the books of the establishment has led to their detection. How far the records themselves are false, of course cannot so well be ascertained. They were made at a homœopathic establishment, under the direction of one who is dishonest enough to give a false representation of the result of their analysis of homœopathic treatment, at the hospital in Vienna; hence, it is fair to presume, that if the matter could be sifted to the bottom, it would be found that the case is still worse for homœopathy than it even now is proved to be.

"A somewhat similar trick has lately been attempted in the city of New York. The trustees of the "Homœopathic Dispensary Association" published a card, addressed to the public, setting forth in figures the results of homœopathy at an orphan institution, as contrasted with results, at the same institution, while the sick received regular medical attendance. Dr. James McCune Smith, of New York, was induced to investigate the matter, and he proves from the same source whence the figures appearing on the card were taken, that, so far from figures establishing the superior success of Homœopathy, the odds are more than double against it. We refer those who have any curiosity to examine the matter, to our respected contemporary, the Annalist, (No. 18, vol. 11,) which contains the card, and the article by Dr. Smith, together with some excellent remarks by the editor. That the Trustees who have lent their name on the card are guilty of a deliberate intention to deceive the public, may not be true, but it was certainly their duty to ascertain that there could be no room for doubt as to the correctness of the statistics, before consenting to endorse them.

"It is not surprising that they who have enrolled themselves as Homœopathists with the view of making the most of it as a pecuniary speculation upon public credulity, should resort to these, and other equally dishonest means of furthering their ends. Not less would be expected from the character of their motives; it is carrying out the spirit which, as Dr. Lee has abundantly showed, actuated the founder of the imposition. Many of them have succeeded in their objects, and are now ready to laugh at the folly which has filled their pockets.

"The latter consolation will not remain for those who have been duped. We really cannot but commiserate the few unfortunate gentlemen, and more particularly, the not so few philanthropic ladies, who have felt it to be their duty to go from house to house, endeavoring to persuade invalids to dismiss their medical advisers, and try a homœopathist. This zeal, which thus prompts them to overstep the bounds of delicacy, is pretty good evidence, that they do not feel quite secure in their confidence in the merits of their cause. It savors of the plan pursued by the fox, in

the fable, who had lost his caudal appendage. Mortification, more than any other species of misery, likes company. But this subject is too grave for ridicule. If it concerned merely mortified pride, or the loss of a few dollars, it would be quite a different matter from what it really is. It is a subject involving health and life. If persons in the independent exercise of their judgment, select a course calculated to jeopardize these most valued of all temporal blessings, they may be compassionated, but perhaps are not culpable. It is otherwise with those who officiously obtrude upon the sick or their friends and taking advantage of the anxiety and weakness which are incident to disease, succeed in diverting, or, at least, impairing the resources of medical art. We envy not the moral perceptions which do not recognize the fearful responsibility which such conduct involves; nor the conscience which is insensible to the reproaches (albeit unuttered) which are breathed in the unavailing regrets of those who mourn for departed friends."

To charge directly or indirectly the entire body of homœopathic practitioners with "dishonesty" is a very silly proceeding. And, to employ such an accusation for an argument against homœopathy, shows a want of intelligence. If every one who has adopted that system of medicine is a fool or a knave, the truth or falsity of it, could not be established by such facts.

We doubt if allopathic journalists do believe that those physicians of the homœopathic school who have resided in the same place for ten, twenty, thirty, and in some instances forty years, and during those periods, by unexceptionable morals and professional skill secured the confidence of the people, that denunciations of "dishonesty" against such, would accomplish much, in interrupting the progress of homœopathy. The above article from the Buffalo Journal in all its essential points, is a tissue of falsehood. That portion of it which relates to the Vienna Hospital, we have already noticed in the 3d Volume of this Journal. Does the Editor of the Buffalo Journal, suppose that such men as constitute the Trustees of the "New York Homœopathic Dispensary Association," are capable of perpetrating a "trick" on the community? We hope Dr. Charles A. Lee did not write that article, and yet it is very like his style and manner of reasoning. Ask Dr. Lee, Mr. Editor, although he was never able to secure the honor of their acquaintance, if such men as Benj. R. Winthrop, John T. Adams, Thomas Denny, Walter L. Cochran, Bayard Clark, Jacob R. Le Roy, Daniel C. Eaton,

Alexis Eustaphie, John Caswell, Robert L. Stewart, and some twenty others equally well known in this city, as of the very highest standing, could be guilty "of a deliberate intention to deceive the public" on any subject? We would inform the Buffalo Journal that the Trustees did "ascertain that there could be no room for doubt as to the correctness of the statistics before consenting to endorse them." To deny them is folly, for they were made up from the books and published annual reports of the different asylums. There can be no mistake about the matter; the "Card" is true in all its parts. A futile attempt to discredit the "Card" was noticed in this Journal soon after it appeared in the *Annalist*. Both a Dr. Smith and the then Editor of that Journal, did not pretend that they had disproved the statements in the "Card," but promised to do so in the next number of the *Annalist*; but nothing more was ever heard from them on the subject. The Trustees of the Dispensary reported the same statistics of the Orphan Asylums of this city, in their annual report, after having again satisfied themselves that they were true. The last two paragraphs of the article under notice are mere rant. What a benevolent set of fellows allopathic doctors would have the public believe themselves to be? They don't practice medicine;—physic we should have said,—for money. Oh! certainly not,—they are too honorable,—too high minded, to think of a fee! Dr. A. H. Stevens said as much in his late address before the State Society. What driveling!! These allopathic gentlemen want the people to understand that homœopathsists want pay for their services. We are much obliged to them, for giving the information, for it is true. Do allopaths work for nothing? We leave the people to answer this question.

#### RESPONSIBILITY OF PHYSICIANS.

A person under the solemnity of an oath, and in the jury box for the trial of a human being charged with a capital offence, deeply feels his responsibility; as the life of a fellow being depends upon his decision. Every item of testimony will be weighed with the utmost exactness, for in case of error an innocent life might be sacrificed.

Is the responsibility of the physician who has the sick in charge a whit less than that of a jurymen? We think not. Therefore it is



his duty to avail himself of a most accurate knowledge of all the means within his reach, to cure human maladies, lest by his ignorance, irreparable mischief might be induced. The responsibility of the physician is tremendous, and it is not unlikely, but few of us feel its force. Serious blunders of the faculty are of daily occurrence, as is well known to the people and sometimes admitted by physicians themselves. There are a variety of causes which lead to such unhappy results. So numerous are they, that we cannot notice but few of them. Some enter the profession, whose natural talents unfit them for its duties: such persons may acquire all knowledge and at the same time never possess skill. Others are deficient in education, and thereby are unqualified to investigate diseases properly; much less to direct in their treatment.

But the greatest evil of all is, the rapid, superficial, unscientific and careless mode of studying individual cases of disease and their treatment, even by those who are qualified to perform this duty thoroughly and accurately. The effort is too frequently made, to ascertain a malady, and its treatment by intuition. That physician who feels the nature and measure of his accountability, will never permit baseless theories to be mixed with the clearly defined facts which are presented to his senses in every case of sickness. He will not dare to reason upon these facts, but with the utmost calmness, caution and certainty; for if he does, he may be the means of the premature death of a human being. Sickness of any kind or degree is a serious matter, but in consequence of deficient instruction of physicians; or from pride or vanity, or a love of money, or ignorance, or indolence, or all combined, thousands have died, who should have lived. He lacks common sense who has confidence in the skill of that physician who hurriedly investigates a disease, and who, as if by inspiration pretends to see at a single look, clear through the most complicated case, and with the same celerity makes a prescription. A few years ago, while we were endeavoring to faithfully discharge our duty by inquiring with care into a case of sickness, a father with more passion than sense said to us: "I want a physician who can tell what is the matter with my child at once, and not sit an hour thinking about it." We replied, that such, were numerous in our city, and he could be accommodated, but we did not belong to that class. And as

he had been mistaken in us, we would cheerfully resign the case into other hands. In a few days however, we received a written apology, and since that, we have had no interference with our professional duty in that family. That lawyer who does not most carefully study his cases, will be judged unsafe and will soon be without clients. That clergyman who neglects to prepare his sermons, will soon perceive dissatisfaction in his congregation, and his usefulness diminishing. The physician, whose duties are much more complicated and difficult than either, cannot in an off-hand sort of a way, recognize and prescribe for disease. He must, not only observe minutely all the phenomena of a case, but that phenomena must be so combined in his mind, as to present a complete picture: and then, with the same care and minuteness he should select a drug which in its positively known effects in the human system will correspond to the picture which the phenomena of the disease has created,—and that will be the remedy. This, however, is only a moiety of his labor, yet if he goes thus far, thoroughly, and with good judgement, he cannot be hasty. He must reason, and that logically, on the facts, and those alone, which are before him, and his conclusions should be drawn with great caution, for if he err, he may all his life afterwards, regret his temerity. Finally, that physician who has not time to study—who does not habituate himself to the closest reasoning in his duties, should quit the profession, he is not only unworthy of it, but is a dangerous member of society.

#### AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

This association, composed of allopathic physicians from all parts of our country assembled for the second time on the 1st of May last, in Boston, Mass. The number in attendance has been variously estimated from 150 to 400, the exact number we could not ascertain, we have reason to believe however, that the former is nearer the truth, than the latter. We have hastily read the proceedings as published in two Journals, but do not perceive anything that was accomplished by that learned body, which in our judgment will tend to any change in the allopathic school. The most prominent and exciting business of the meeting was on the Report of the Committee on *Medical Education*. There seem-

ed to be a good deal of dissatisfaction felt, and much of it expressed towards the medical colleges. But the influence of these institutions predominated, and they were left, with a few harmless resolutions of advice. We do not clearly perceive the real ground of opposition to these schools, for we do not believe that an extension of the time of the lectures, and a better preliminary education of students, are sufficient of themselves to produce the exciting debate which was had upon these two points.

Dr. Davis, of our city, took a prominent part in the debate, and seemed to be the leader of the reform party. The college party had the ablest debaters and the greatest number of votes, and it managed the association with a good deal of skill; for although the resolutions which were passed, if effective, would cause some important changes in the Colleges, but Dr. A. H. Stevens took care to say in substance that whatever resolutions they might pass in relation to the colleges were only advisory. We do not think the New York Academy of Medicine was very well treated, for it had passed resolutions on the subject of separating the teaching and the examination for the diploma; which were presented to the association, and without reading referred to a committee who did not see fit to report upon them, and by a vote they were taken from the hands of that committee and referred to another one, who will place them among the proceedings for publication. "A resolution recommending the medical colleges throughout the country, to adopt the system of *Concours*, for choosing their Professors," was adopted without debate. We hope for the sake of the *outs*, this course may go into effect, that some of them may become the *ins*; at the same time, it should be born in mind that if professorships are thus thrown open to competition, some of the successful candidates may be homœopathists. This danger the colleges will no doubt avoid, by paying no attention, whatever, to the advice of the association.

On the whole it was an interesting meeting, and the feastings provided by the Bostonians contributed in no small degree to good humour and agreeableness of the delegates towards one another. The next meeting will be held on the 1st Tuesday in May, 1850, in Cincinnati.

### "ALL BUT."

"A late Eastern Medical Journal speaks of the 'now all but defunct vagaries of Hahnemann.'" The writer certainly never was very far West, or he would have omitted the unfortunate westernism, by the favor of which, his misstatement is converted into a truth. Truly Homœopathia is *everything else* but defunct, and the assurance that it is on the wane, nay, that it is not rapidly increasing, is entirely erroneous. This may be readily believed, when we consider that we are always told that it is "dying out" in some region other than the one where the assertion is made. Thus we are told here that it is "dying out" at the East,—at the East the cry is that it is "dying out" in France, Germany, or England. This is not a candid and honorable course, for it is easy to make a charge relative to what is occurring in remote lands, which it may require much investigation to disprove, and when it is disproved, the same assertion may be repeated with as firm an assurance as ever. The truth is, that Homœopathia *is* rapidly on the increase throughout the whole of Europe; it *is* on the increase in the eastern section of our own country; it *is* on the increase here in our very midst. This may be ascertained by any one who chooses to inquire as regards our own country;—as regards other lands, we shall shortly furnish, in the pages of our Journal, statistics showing the state of things abroad. If Homœopathia is dying, its death is a marvelous one, since every day it gains new trophies and acquires increased vigor.

This charge furnishes another illustration of the readiness of our opponents to endeavor to refute Homœopathia by anything but direct experiment. We have said repeatedly, and again affirm, that Homœopathia is based upon facts—upon experience; and neither false charges of its "dying out" here or there, denunciations of Medical Societies or Colleges, nor anything nor everything else, can ever disprove or overturn it, until the fallacy of this experience and these facts be shown. Who will attempt to *disprove* that Belladonna causes symptoms similar to Scarlet Fever, or that Belladonna will cure Scarlet Fever? Who can prove that any one of our remedies does not produce the effects which we attribute to it, or that it does not cure those affected with similar symptoms? No one; the labor is declined—hence resort is made to pitiful sneers and slurs unworthy



of an honorable profession. No proof need be required of the infinite divisibility of matter, after seeing what infinitesimal portions of wit or reason the objections of our opponents contain, nor can we find a more striking illustration of the effect of minutely divided matter, than is found in the fact that some are still duped by these objections.—*N. W. J. Ho.*

### ALLOPATHIC LOGIC.

The treatment which Homœopathia has received at the hands of Allopathists, is no small argument in its favor. Hahnemann in breaking loose from the trammels of the schools, and in founding a new mode of practice, was met, as his disciples have been, with the assaults of false reasoning, and of wit more innocent of point than scurrility. Nor were civil persecutions wanting in those countries where such things could be done;—in others, Medical Societies have fulminated their noisy but harmless bolts at these luckless heretics, vainly endeavoring to thrust Homœopathists from the pale of the profession, and to deny them its rights and privileges.—But who has yet showed Homœopathia to be false? We appeal to facts: we base our assertions upon experiments, and if our assertions are false, it is easy to prove them so by counter experiments. We assert that certain medicines given in health will produce certain symptoms in the diseased system. We point to numberless experiments, made with the greatest possible care, by practitioners in all parts of the world during the last fifty years, as confirmation of our assertions, and how are we met? One Society has it thus:—“*Resolved, As the sense [?] of this Society, that we consider the treatment of disease by the system of practice called Homœopathia, as unsafe, undignified, and unworthy of the present enlightened state of Medical knowledge.*” What does this prove? That Aconite does not cause symptoms very like a fever, when administered to a person in health? Or does it prove that this same Aconite given to a person in a violent fever, will not check the fever and restore the patient to health? Or that if given in an infinitesimal portion, it will fail to produce a beneficial effect? Not at all. It merely proves that those who passed such resolutions were ignorant of the principles of Homœopathia, and unwilling to examine them: hence are guilty of a course which is “unsafe, undignified, and unworthy the present enlightened state of Medical

knowledge,” in that they have condemned that of which they are totally ignorant,—like the venerable justice who would never hear both sides of a case, because he always got confused if he listened to the second party!

At another time we shall lay before our readers other Allopathic arguments quite as conclusive as the foregoing.—*North Western Journal of Homœopathia.*

### *The Archduke John, Viceregent of Germany and Homœopathy.*

In Rapou’s *Histoire de la Medecine Homœopathique* we learn the following interesting particulars respecting the eminent personage who at present fills the important office of Viceregent of the German Empire.

In 1834 the Emperor Francis died, and it was generally reported, and even openly asserted by several allopathic physicians, that he was killed by blood-letting carried to an irrational extent; his death was soon followed by that of his brother the Archduke Anthony, caused by the same system of blood-letting in a similar inflammatory disease. About the same time it so happened that the Archduke John, the Nimrod of Styria, was also attacked by a violent inflammation. Warned by the fate of his brothers, he kept the dangerous blood-suckers at a distance, and employed a physician of that school that can cure without shedding blood. Dr. Marenzeller was called in, who speedily put him in a condition to follow the chamois over the hills.

The contrast of the result of the treatment of his case with that of his two brothers made an extraordinary impression at Court. A new impulse was given to homœopathy, and the number of its adherents increased amazingly.—*British Journal of Homœopathy.*

DR. S. R. KIRBY:

Dear Sir:—I herewith send you \$1 for the 4th Volume of your Journal.

I am only a beginner in homœopathy, having my diploma as an allopathic physician, yet I hope that I shall soon be able to give up allopathy entirely, though it will not be so easy for me, to convince the people of the superiority of homœopathy, as there has been no homœopathic physician in this part of the country.

The most astonishing fact in homœopathy which I could not believe at first, was that all the medicines act just as sure, only by smelling at them. It seems to be contrary to all physical and chemical laws, that metals,



and particularly such heavy ones as gold, etc. should act in this way, as it must necessarily follow, that they evaporate. This almost incredible fact, which though I could not find an explanation for it, yet I could not reject, being confirmed by so many careful observations. After reflecting upon the subject, I think now, that I can give an explanation, which at least to me seems plausible, though I don't know whether it has not been explained long ago in a more satisfactory manner. I therefore don't attribute any importance to it, yet I thought I might just as well write down my ideas upon the subject.

It is well known that if we dissolve Sugar of Lead for instance in water, and then evaporate the fluid, that the Sugar of Lead remains and only the water evaporates. But here are substances like Chamomile, Peppermint tea, or Assafoetida Tincture, where the fluid does not evaporate alone, but at least some, if not all of the substances that are contained in it, evaporate along with it. To explain these facts, I think we must first investigate what becomes of the water, when it is evaporated. It is converted into steam. But what does the steam consist of? Here I am forced to suggest a theory of my own, as I do not know of any other, to explain the subject in view. I believe that steam is nothing else than a multitude of small water bubbles filled with heated and therefore expanded air, and these bubbles might therefore be best compared to little balloons. Now, every one of these little balloons, filled with heated air, can possibly carry a small particle of any substance along, provided its weight be still less, than the weight of the same volume of the surrounding atmospheric air. Now it can easily be conceived, how substances like Peppermint, etc., whose particles are naturally very light and small, can evaporate, when others like Sugar of Lead, whose particles are very heavy, cannot. But if we would dissolve one grain of Sugar of Lead, in a large quantity of water, by a way similar to the homœopathic preparation, so that every particle of steam would get its equally small share of lead, then all the lead would surely evaporate.

But there is another thing yet, which needs an explanation: for even if we admit the above theory, it is yet contrary to all chemical and physiological laws hitherto known, that substances so utterly indissoluble (except by complicated means) like gold, platina, etc.,

should act on the nervous system, by the mere process of trituration and dynamization.—Yet the fact, that by a long continued trituration, and reduction of these raw metals into their very atoms, as it were, they become dissolvable; this fact, which hitherto was unknown to chemists, which however no theory nor speculation can overthrow, explains the whole mystery, and places these metals in their higher potencies, on the same scale with the smelling substances, which, as every one admits, acts upon the nervous system in very minute doses. Would it not therefore be absurd to deny the possibility of a minute dose of gold or platina, etc., affecting the nervous system, when we admit that vegetable substances, much less powerful, do it, as for instance, the smelling of *Valerian* or the exhalation of *Rhus Toxicodendron*, and in fact all the miasmata and contagia, which Heim could distinguish by the smell, as soon as he entered the room of a patient. An indisputable example of the efficacy of minute doses of metals is the lead colic, as the most accurate investigation has been made by allopathic physicians (such as Tanquerel) and they themselves declare, that in a great many cases there is no other explanation admissible, but the inhalation of small particles of lead. And yet these small particles which are inhaled, can surely not be weighed by the ounce nor by the grain, but are in fact homœopathic doses. On the contrary, we see large allopathic doses given for sometime, without producing the Lead Colic. It is the same with the—so called—vapors of quicksilver, arsenic, copper, phosphor, etc. I believe that every allopathic physician, just by studying the facts which speak in favor of the efficacy of small doses of poisonous agents, which are admitted by the old school, might be convinced of this great truth, and be led to an honest investigation of the whole doctrine.

The above theory of evaporation would give a good explanation of some other facts such as the boiling of water at a much lower or higher degree of temperature, just according to the diminished or increased pressure of the surrounding air, or the solution of substances in the water, etc. Even the paradox theory of latent warmth might be explained, as the heat is probably consumed for heating and so expanding the air.

There is another fact yet, which speaks in favor of the greater efficacy of the medicines,



when they are reduced into the smallest particles. When the steam of boiling water is lead through a red hot iron tube, there will be found afterwards an immensely fine powder of iron rust; produced by the decomposition of the water into oxygen and hydrogen as is well known. This powder was proposed as a good medicinal preparation, but on its trial on persons it was found to act so immensely powerful, that at first it was supposed, that there was some poisonous substance amongst it, yet the most accurate chemical examination, showed that this was not the case. Can anything speak more in favor of the efficacy of the medicines, when reduced into the smallest particles possible, than this fact, admitted by the chemists and physicians of the old school?

Respectfully Yours,

THEOPHILUS BRUCKNER, M. D.

Tamaque, Pa.

#### THE CHOLERA IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

About two weeks ago cases of Cholera were reported to the Board of Health as having occurred in the filthiest part of this city. Forthwith a number of allopathic physicians by appointment, and others on their own account visited these cases, for the purpose of determining the question,—Is it *Asiatic Cholera*? As usual, a diversity of opinion in relation to the character of the disease in question, was found to exist among these “legitimists.” “It certainly looks like the Cholera” says one. “Yes, a very striking resemblance” answered another. “If it spreads, I shall believe it to be the *Cholera*” said a third. “But that patient, and that one, look as if they would recover, and if they do in this dirty place, I shall unhesitatingly pronounce it, not *Cholera*, yet it is very like it. In this, as in every thing almost which relates to *nasology*, and *pathology*, although the former is embraced in the latter, there will be contradictory opinions among members of the profession; for the reason, there is as yet, very little that is exact in pathology, especially that part of it which relates to the names of diseases. We are not disposed to provoke a controversy on the, to our mind, useless point about the name of the disease reported as Cholera to the Board of Health of this city. However there are a few facts, with which, every physician, as well as ourself,

must be familiar. For several months past, and during almost the whole of last winter, *diarrhæas* and *dysenteries* have been unusually common among us, and frequently accompanied with vomiting: Also sickness at stomach and vomiting without diarrhæic or dysenteric evacuations have taken place, very much out of season for this city. Few of these have proved fatal. Within the last month *diarrhæa*, has existed in very many and has proved fatal to a few. In other respects this city has been, and is healthy.—Now, this is the whole of the matter in relation to the presence of the Cholera among us: we do not believe that physicians are warranted in combining these facts, and create a monster out of them, with a terrible name, to frighten folks out of their senses. Let the good people of this city understand, that to give a name to a disease, is a very uncertain thing, and of no practical value, even if the name happens to express the thing, which it seldom does.

We are happy in having it in our power to state that all educated physicians of the two schools agree, that those drugs or combination of drugs, that are termed remedies for Cholera are to be avoided, because of their pernicious tendency. Already, hand-bills have been posted all over our city headed “A certain remedy for Cholera,” &c., &c. These drugs should be shunned, if health and life are worth preserving.

If the *Cholera* is not among us now, will it prevail here this summer? This question has been propounded frequently within a few days; and we very much regret that physicians have pretended to be able to answer it. The truth is, the question cannot be answered. We don't know,—we have no means of knowing. One has said emphatically—“the *Cholera* will not visit this city.” Others have said with equal positiveness, that it will. We shall give no opinion on the subject, but patiently wait, and see which is right.

If the *Cholera* should prevail, ought we not to “diet” so as to be in the best possible condition to meet it? Some persons have singular ideas of “dieting” as it is termed. Almost all regard it, as a sort of starvation mode of living. This we unhesitatingly say, would be pernicious, *Cholera* or no *Cholera*. Starvation in any degree is not a preventive of that disease. The rule is “eat to live.” The same kind of food is not suited to all, and each one must determine from his experience

what is best adapted to him, and a sudden change in diet, either in kind or quantity should not be encouraged.

### HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES CAUSE NERVOUS DISEASES.

The opponents of homœopathia are remarkable for the variety of views which they take of that system of medicine. They say all manner of things of it, without regard to consistency. At one time homœopathia is nothing, absolutely nothing; at another time, the most pernicious effects attend its practice; the medicine is *arsenic*, and thousands have lost their lives by submitting to its practitioners. Now, it is the ordinary allopathic practice, so modified as to conceal from the ignorant its true character; and now, it only demonstrates, that diseases get well better without medicine, than with it. Practitioners of homœopathia are fools; and then they are all knaves; and then again, they are honest, but deluded. The very last discovery, *pathological* discovery perhaps we ought to term it, is that homœopathic medicines cause nervous diseases. By whom this was first announced, we have not been able to establish with certainty, but probably the New York Academy is entitled to that high honor: and yet there is room for doubt, for that body has been most industriously employed of late in political operations, such as, instructing the Governor of this state in some of his duties, an account of which we have been promised.

A friend at our elbow, declares it as his opinion, most carefully made up after years of investigation, that allopathic practitioners are *demented*, absolutely and hopelessly *demented*. We cannot go as far as our friend does in his opinion, we think him entirely wrong: the difficulty consists in this; allopathic practitioners are almost entirely ignorant of homœopathia, and they are guilty of a gross deception when they pretend to have knowledge of it. This will account for their illogical reasoning on our system of medicine, and the many absurd charges which they have alledged against it; the last, but not the least, is at the head of this article.

### AN INTERESTING CASE.

A child 2 1-2 years old, unobserved by its mother, placed the spout of a coffee pot in its mouth, and let very hot coffee run down the

throat, and also upon the chest. The lips and mouth soon swelled so much that the child was almost suffocating. Six or eight drops of Domestic Soap, 7th attenuation, in a tea-cup half full of water, and a tablespoonful given at a dose, which relieved the agony of the child at once. A repetition was directed, if the sufferings returned; it was repeated in half an hour. Several hours afterwards the child became excessively hot, *Aconite* 13th, 5 pellets dissolved in a tumbler half full of water, and one tea-spoonful of it given every fifteen minutes. The mouth and throat and tongue were so inflamed and swollen that the child could breathe only with great difficulty. He took a teaspoonful of equal parts of milk and water every half hour. He screamed every time he took the medicine or his milk and water. He passed his urine involuntarily,—was quite unconscious and in a kind of stupor. His condition seemed to grow worse for some three or four hours, and then began to improve, asked for drink, slept at short intervals with open mouth, and half open eyes, and great difficulty of breathing. This continued for about four hours longer, when he began to sit up, and the inflammation began to subside, the throat was covered with a thin coating of ulceration. No further medicine was given. He was able to eat in a few days, and was well within about six days, from the time of the injury. This will be regarded by intelligent physicians as a remarkable case. It should be remembered that *Soap* is always good in any burn, taken internally and applied externally. In the above case *Domestic Soap*, 7th attenuation cured the burn; and *Aconite*, 13th attenuation, cured the inflammation.

### A CASE OF PLEURISY.

A. B. Was seized, May 2d, with a severe chill of several hours duration, followed by an intense catching pain or stitch in the right side of the chest, hot skin, pulse 95, short cough and bloody expectoration. The cough was not very severe, and the physical signs proved that the disease was chiefly confined to the pleura, and that the lungs were not much involved. We gave the patient one dose of the 20th dilution of *Aconite*, and repeated it in twelve hours.

May 3d has been and is still in a free perspiration, pulse 85 and soft, free from pain



except on motion, coughing, and drawing a long breath, cough is more troublesome than yesterday, expectoration still bloody. Gave one dose of a few globules of the 30th of Bryonia dry upon his tongue.

May 4th. Improving, cough less troublesome, pulse 80.

May 5th. Free from pain, cough, and fever and begins to have some appetite. This gentleman had a similar attack some years ago, for which he was bled several times and put through the usual allopathic treatment, and was confined to the house three months. The first reason why we have given the above case in preference to many others which we have treated, is because it happens to be the last we have had of the kind; the second reason is, because it shows the result of the two methods of treatment on the same individual, and furthermore he having been treated allopathically, is capable of judging whether we resorted to the so-called active treatment. We could not have bled, blistered, vomited, purged, nauseated, nor salivated him without his knowing it, and it appears to us that it would be rather difficult to deceive any patient with these measures.—*Michigan Journal of Homœopathy.*

Truth cannot be destroyed,—its progress may be in appearance slow, but it is certain. There are many things which obstruct the spread of homœopathia, yet it will triumph, because it is true. The above case is only one among hundreds of the same kind, well authenticated, which have appeared in homœopathic works; and yet those who have no experience in the practice, will deny, and sneer, and ridicule and misrepresent such brilliant results. But such cases are living witnesses, which cannot be gainsayed.

*Samuel Hahnemann's Organon of Homœopathic Medicine. Third American edition, with improvements from the last German edition, and Dr. C. Hering's introductory remarks.*

A new edition of the above invaluable work has just been published by Wm. Radde, No. 322 Broadway, N. Y., and others. The following are the introductory remarks of Dr. Hering, which should receive a careful reading.

"It is now twelve years since the first edition of the *Organon of Medicine* appeared in this country. Since that period, the number of homœopathic physicians in the United States has more than doubled every four years.—This increase has been gradual, sometimes more, and at others less rapid, but always without interruption; and at no time, either in this country or in Europe, has there been any retrogression from the ground gained. However, there have never been wanting those who asserted that homœopathy was on the decline, and indeed was dead; which reminds us of the old adage, that when a man is said to be dead, he has usually the promise of a long life. Other opponents have entertained great hopes, when they have learned that the adherents of our school are divided into different parties. This is much the same as if the friends of royalty in Europe should augur the downfall of our republican institutions, because there are among us various political parties. Among so large a number of physicians, it is quite natural that different opinions should be entertained and promulgated, and even that partisan conflicts should arise. But all these several parties stand combined against the faithful adherents of the institutions of the middle ages, as the varied wings of our common army.

1. All homœopathic physicians are united under the banner of the great law of cure, *similia similibus curantur*; however they may differ in regard to the theoretical explanation of that law, or the extent to which it may be applied.

2. All homœopathic physicians acknowledge that provings upon the healthy are indispensable in ascertaining the unknown curative powers of drugs.

3. Finally: all homœopaths concur in giving but one medicine at a time, never mixing different drugs together under the absurd expectation that each will act according to their dictum. This is the glorious tri-color of our school, which will make the circuit of the world, and in these we are as the heart of one man.

It is not a little gratifying to find, that all the recent discoveries in Chemistry and Physiology, serve to confirm and establish the principles of our system, while they contradict the usual pathological opinions of the day. The wonderful discoveries in pathological anatomy, in ascertaining the material and chemical changes produced by disease and medicines, while they are a valuable addition to our knowledge, serve only to engender in the old school such doctrines as "Young Physic;" according to which the patient is scientifically informed of the nature of his disorder, and gravely left to the efforts of nature. Even the Water Cure is only the servant of the doctrine of Hahnemann, cleansing and renovating the house to be occupied by us.

While the various dissensions among the old school are favouring the extension of homœopathy, the varied diversities among ourselves serve only to develop and advance our

principles. What important influence can it exert, whether a homœopath adopt the theoretical opinions of Hahnemann or not, so long as he holds fast the practical rules of the master, and the *Materia Medica* of our school. What influence can it have, whether a physician adopt or reject the Psora theory, so long as he always selects the most similar medicine possible? Even in the larger or smaller doses, the masses or the potences, allowing that there is a great difference between them according to the testimony of the friends of each, yet all this difference dwindles into insignificance, when we compare the results of homœopathic with that of common allopathic practice. Hence we may console ourselves, leaving to farther researches to confirm or rectify Hahnemann's theory of potences, and to establish a rule without exceptions, according to which, the lower or the higher potences shall be the most appropriate in each individual case. There will always be a large number of physicians who either do not understand, or will not learn, how to select for each particular case the one only proper medicine, and such will always find it most comfortable to employ massive doses. There will always be perhaps as large a number, on the one hand, who will by and by know how to hit the nail upon the head, and they will learn to prefer the high potences. Even Hahnemann himself required more than a score of years to learn this. As through war we come to the possession of peace, so in the world of science, through conflict and trial, we come to the possession of truth. It was an old motto of Luther's,

"Lass die Geister auf einander platzen."

*Philadelphia, November 1, 1848.*

We regret to have met with instances, where physicians assume to practice homœopathically, who have never read the *Organon* by Hahnemann. As the profession is now furnished with a new and beautiful edition, by Wm. Radde, we hope each member of it will supply himself with that indispensable work. The price we believe is only \$1 00.

#### NOTICE OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF CHOLERA. IN GLASGOW.

BY WILLIAM RALPH BEILEY, M. D.

I regret that I am unable to communicate so full a detail as might be wished of the homœopathic treatment of Cholera in Glasgow, during the prevalence of the epidemic in this city, as a journal was not kept of each case

at the time. A detail, however, of the treatment of each case is unnecessary, as I believe I can generally only confirm the testimony of homœopathic physicians regarding the efficacy of the various medicines commonly employed.

The fact of the remarkable prevalence and fatality of Cholera in Glasgow during the months of November and December of the past, and January and February of the present year, must be well known. So far from its being confined to the lower classes—as was the case in Edinburgh—it was believed that during the first six weeks of the epidemic a very large proportion of the cases occurred among the wealthier portion of the community. It is certain that all along, the epidemic prevailed in districts of the town apparently the most healthily situated—a circumstance quite inexplicable by any peculiarity in the drainage or other physical condition of these parts.

Seventeen cases of the fully developed disease came under my own care, the majority of them being patients of the lowest class. Of these, fifteen recovered, two died. Of the two fatal cases, one was that of a lady who had been under the treatment of an ordinary practitioner for thirteen hours before I saw her, at which time she had sunk into hopeless collapse. If, as believed by some, palliative treatment, *applied from the first and sedulously maintained*, be as effectual as homœopathic treatment in acute diseases for which a perfectly enantiopathic remedy exists, such cases as this ought to recover under the treatment commonly employed by the old school; for the patient it appeared had taken a very large dose of opium on the first appearance of diarrhœa, and the same had been repeated frequently during the above period. The dejections at first were temporarily arrested, but soon the palliative, even in increased quantities, quite lost its effect.

The other fatal case was in some respects a remarkable one. It was that of an old lady, to whom I was called, after she had laboured for two days under well-marked choleric diarrhœa, characterized by frequent painless, very watery stools, preceded by loud borborygmus and grumbling in the bowels. This diarrhœa appeared to have yielded to alternate doses of *Secale* and *Phosphoric acid*, and no motion had occurred for several hours, when suddenly the stools changed their character, becoming colourless and loaded with flakes, and the fully developed disease was



declared, *Camphor* had been used before the *Secale* and *Phos. Ac.* without effect; when tried now it excited vomiting. Under *Veratrum* every half-hour, continued for nine hours, the characteristic dejections became less frequent, and ultimately ceased altogether. She was now, however, cold and pulseless. After an interval of three hours and a half, a quantity of thick, tarry, abominably fœtid matter was discharged at short intervals from the bowels. Under *Arsenicum* and *Lachesis* this discharge became less frequent, and changed to pure blood, and with this change she gave token, by her restlessness and groans of suffering acute griping pain in the bowels. This latter symptom, as well as the discharge ceased entirely after two doses of *Merc. corros.* 2. A favourable prognosis was then given, as her pulse could just be felt again. Soon after, however, she became restless, delirious, and gradually sank. During the progress of the epidemic it was currently stated that no case in persons above fifty recovered. This patient's age was seventy-six.

As to the medicines employed in the different cases, most benefit undoubtedly was obtained from *Camphor*. At first I felt strongly prejudiced against its employment in cases in which the evacuations had gone on for some time, but I soon became very confident in its efficacy, even in these circumstances. I always employed a saturated solution of pure *Camphor* in rectified spirit, of which the dose was first five drops, and then two drops every ten minutes afterwards. In six of the cases the *Camphor* alone was sufficient to check the purging. It was generally given at the commencement of treatment, unless collapse had already set in; but its employment was always discontinued after the first hour, if decided benefit failed to appear.

*Veratrum* was of most benefit in the purging. It was given generally in the first dilution, of which four drops were mixed in a wine glassful of water, and a teaspoonful given every half hour, or seldomer, according to the stage and progress of the disease. A drop of the third dilution every quarter of an hour succeeded perfectly in one case. In another case in which the purging was most obstinate, I gave a drop of the undiluted mother tincture with decided temporary advantage. It produced vomiting at the time, which had not previously occurred, but the purging was considerably relieved by it. The patient,

however, ultimately died, being the first of the two fatal cases above mentioned.

*Arsenicum* was of little or no benefit in the purging. In two cases, however, in which vomiting predominated, with excessive thirst, and vomiting shortly after drinking, *Arsenicum* was of signal use. In one of these it had been given at the second dilution for some time, without the slightest benefit. Reluctant to abandon it, I tried a higher potency, and one globule of *Ars.* 12, every half hour, checked the vomiting after the third dose.

Of *Cuprum* I had no experience, not having seen a case in which it was indicated. In one case I regretted not having *Jatropha* in, which the characteristic dejections continued after the vomiting had subsided, and the patient's state was generally improved. In this case, and in another in which purging only existed from the first, I thought the alternation of *Secale* with the *Veratrum* of some service.

In only one of the cases did well-marked febrile symptoms supervene. The patient, a female, came under treatment when in a state of collapse, and after having been pronounced moribund by the parish surgeon. From this state she emerged by the aid of *Arsen.* and *Verat.*, and subsequently a low typhoid febrile paroxysm supervened. The pulse rose to 104, and she complained much of pains in the limbs and dull pressure at the pit of the stomach. For this state *Rhus* was given with great benefit. The allopathic treatment of Cholera is perhaps not wholly innocent of the production of the so-called third or febrile stage of the disease, which certainly appears to be of more frequent occurrence under the ancient method.

In two cases a slight relapse occurred; both however, ultimately did well. Relapses, generally, were not uncommon, and most frequently proved fatal;

A great deal of choleric or choleric diarrhœa prevailed during the epidemic. The majority of the cases were treated with *Veratrum*, *Mercurius*, or *Pulsatilla*, preceded generally by several doses of *Camphor*. Fear lest the fully developed disease should be established prevented me from giving so fair a trial to *Phosphoric acid* and *Secale* in this diarrhœa as the experience of the German and Russian physicians would have warranted. In a good many cases the diarrhœa indicated *China*, the evacuations being extremely watery, painless, and occurring soon after each



meal, and in these cases the efficacy of this remedy was decided.

NOTE.—At the height of the epidemic a letter appeared in one of the local newspapers, calling popular attention to the fact of the efficacy of Camphor when employed in the first stage of the disease, and to the importance of every household being provided with a tincture of sufficient strength. The efficacy of Camphor having thus, it appears, become pretty generally known, a "Homœopathic Tincture of Camphor," of the required strength, was prepared from a recipe furnished by my colleague, Dr Scott, to one of the principal druggists in town, and sold extensively. I have reason to know that many of the ordinary practitioners employed this successfully in their own practice. Pills, consisting almost wholly of Camphor, were used by one individual with great success. The writer of the letter in the newspaper just referred to, an extensive manufacturer in this city, employing several hundred hands, himself treated successfully twenty-one cases, with Camphor alone, and the same gentleman has since informed me that he is aware of seventeen cases having been treated at Kilniarnock with like success.

Since we wrote the article in another column on the Cholera in this city, the profession has pretty generally agreed that that disease does exist among us, but as yet in mildness, assuming forms which differ very much in the cases. The alarm among our population is increasing, which is not at all necessary. For, considering our very large population, were it not for the useless daily reports of the Board of Health, we should hardly be aware that Cholera existed in this city. There is one fact, however, worthy of notice; it is that almost all kinds of acute diseases have ceased during the last two weeks, and a Cholera influence is slightly felt by almost every individual, and the disease is developed, comparatively, only in a few persons. Our fear is, that this calm portends a storm. We urge the use of the preventive medicines, viz. *Cuprum metallicum*, 30th dilution, and *Veratrum* 30th dilution. Two or three pellets of these may be taken every third morning in alternation.

We will here take occasion to remark, that the "Medical Counsel" to our Board of Health have recommended the use of 20 or 25 drops of *Laudanum* in cholera diarrhœa. This betrays an ignorance of opium in that disease which from the respect we have heretofore felt for those gentlemen, has filled us with astonishment. Opium in any form in the Cholera is pernicious, and should be avoided. We ask the "Medical Counsel" if they do not know,

that all medicines, and especially *Opium*, has primary and secondary action, directly the opposite of each other. Administer *Opium* in a genuine Cholera Diarrhœa, in "20 or 25 drops" doses, the evacuation from the bowels would cease by its primary action, and now and then one of good constitution and in a mild attack the secondary effect, which is to purge, might be slight, and no great evil follow, as when the Cholera prevails, thousands have a slight diarrhœa, take nothing and never have the disease developed. But in those persons who have the diarrhœa, and in whom the Cholera would be developed; let such, take *Opium*, the primary effect would be, to hold the disease at bay for awhile, but the secondary effect is sure to develop the malady in a form which no treatment can control. This we know was true in 1832; and a few days ago a death occurred in this city under precisely these circumstances. Let it therefore be set down as a fact, that in those who take *Opium*, and by its first effect, the diarrhœa ceases; the Cholera if afterwards developed, as in eight out of ten it will be, in so severe a form, that death will follow in a few hours.

If the "Medical Counsel" cannot give us better evidence of their qualification for the office they hold, the sooner the people demand their dismissal the better.

At Cincinnati the homœopathic treatment of Cholera is found successful. The *Times* says:—"Three homœopathic physicians report their cases of Cholera, from 20th April up to the 15th May, to number 152, of which there has only been one death. Another homœopathic practitioner reports for the last two weeks 88 cases of Cholera in his practice and no death. Beside these, we learn that there are eight other homœopathic practitioners, who have been eminently successful. None of the above, we understand, have been reported to the Board of Health. The ratio of cures to cases treated in this city by homœopathy, so far as we have learned, are about the same compared with those under Allopathic treatment, as is generally found everywhere—that is to say, as ten to one in favor of the new system.

The American Institute of Homœopathy will hold its Annual Session on the 13th of this month in Philadelphia.



# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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NO. 3.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW YORK, JULY, 1849.

FATAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRESENT MODES OF PRACTICE.

Continued from page 17.

Yet, strong as is the evidence just quoted, together with that furnished by common experience, there is reason to believe that the deplorable consequences constantly produced by medicines as they are ordinarily used, are scarcely, in any quarter fully estimated.—Even where their administration is rapidly followed by an unfavorable change, it is rarely that either the practitioner or the friends of the patient will permit themselves to suspect this event to have arisen from any other cause than the irresistible progress of the original disease. The practitioner, under such circumstances, feels satisfied that he has pursued the course recommended by the authorities for whom he has most respect; and even if he were to admit the possibility of the fatal termination having been caused in one

case by the remedies administered, he would console himself with the reflection that these remedies had in other cases led to recovery; that, perhaps, where one life had been lost, two had been saved, and that, having adopted the course which gave the most favorable chance, he is not called upon to proclaim the unfortunate result, and thus to weaken the general confidence in a medicine which more frequently saves life than destroys it. On the other hand, the friends of the sufferer, with the natural desire to escape regret where regret would seem profitless, eagerly shut out from their minds all questioning as to whether, under other circumstances, a different result might have been attained.

But when, as in a large majority of cases, the evil consequences are not immediate, they are still less likely to be traced to their real source. In this country, especially, where an idea seems to prevail that medicine may almost be digested, and that, like food, it should be taken in large quantities and of a substantial kind, the thought of its penetrating the system, and, by its latent powers continually undermining the constitution, appears seldom to be entertained. The man who, in mature life, finds himself the victim of a chronic malady, threatening to embitter the remainder of his days, is for the most part satisfied to refer to its merely proximate cause—in nine cases out of ten, the anxieties of business,—without ever dreaming that the morbid irritability which rendered these anxieties overwhelming, might possibly be traced to some illness of which, by a liberal administration of medicine, a "cure" had been effected ten or twenty years; and even if, in addition to his own case, he were to see his children, despite the vitality of youth, vainly struggling against some poisonous taint, which, after having manifested itself in eruptive disease, had at length been accidentally

repelled, he would probably find it no less difficult to recognize the possibility of this taint having been transmitted, and as arising from those poisons, to the action of which, so many years before, he had himself been subjected.

The extent to which this chronic action may affect the system has, in some cases, been strikingly shown. It is not, therefore, the exhausting effects of active medical treatment, fatal as these sometimes are, that are chiefly to be dreaded. Some of the medicines in frequent use, mercury, iodine, foxglove, &c., possess the power of accumulating in the body, and then suddenly breaking out with dangerous or fatal violence, so that although the patient may appear for some time able to undergo the use of them with impunity, he may, sooner or later, and when least expected, find himself the victim of a new disease, more intractable perhaps than any other, because arising from a cause which penetrates every organ of his frame. "The secondary and chronic effects of mercury," says Dr. Christison, "are multifarious," and "there is hardly a disease of common occurrence which has not been imputed, by one author or another, to its direct or indirect operation." With regard to mercurial salivation, he asserts that there appears to be hardly any limit to the time this affection may last, after the administration of mercury has been abandoned; and he quotes, from various authors, many remarkable illustrations of its power of infusing itself into the system. Bruckmann, he says, mentions the case of a lady who, subsequently to a course of mercury, remarked after a dance many small black stains on her breast, and minute globules of quicksilver in the folds of her linen. In the German Ephemerides, it is said that no less than a pound of it was found in the brain and two ounces in the skull cap of one who had been long salivated; and although Dr. Christison seems scarcely able to credit this statement, it is strongly supported by more recent facts. In Hufeland's Journal, it is mentioned that a skull found in a churchyard contained running quicksilver in the texture of its bones; and an unequivocal circumstance of the same nature has been related by Mr. Rigby Brodbelt. Dr. Otto also supplies an equally unquestionable statement. On scraping the periosteum of several of the bones of a man who had labored under syphilis, he remarked minute globules issuing from the

osseous substance, and in some places, when the bones were struck, a shower of fine globules fell from them. Wilmer likewise observes that Fricke, surgeon to the Hamburg Infirmary, has obtained mercury by boiling the bones of persons who had long been under a course of mercurial inunction. With regard to iodine, also, Dr. Christison quotes some fatal cases. Dr. Rivers, an American physician, he says, has twice noticed barrenness, apparently induced by its prolonged use. Dr. Jahn specifies, among the leading effects of the poison when slowly accumulated in the body,—absorption of the fat,—increase of all the excretions—dinginess of the skin—lividity of the lips—feebleness of the pulse—impaired digestion, and diminished secretion of saliva and mucus. The doses required to produce these effects are very various; but Dr. Gairdner is quoted as having seen severe symptoms commence when no more than half a grain was taken, three times a day, for a single week; and Coindet, as having seen bad effects from thirty drops of the solution of ioduretted hydriodate, taken daily for five days. Of the cumulative effects of foxglove fatal instances are likewise detailed. Regarding nitrate of silver, a case is mentioned from Wedemeyer, in which, after that medicine had been taken for six months on account of epilepsy, the whole internal organs were found, upon a post-mortem examination, more or less blue, and metallic silver was discovered in the pancreas, and in the choroid plexus of the brain. Dr. Pereira, speaking of the same medicine as a remedy for epilepsy, says, "In some cases the patients have been cured of the epilepsy for which they took the medicine; in others, the remedy has failed. In one instance, which fell under my notice, the patient, a highly respectable gentleman residing in London, was obliged to give up business in consequence of the discoloration produced by it; for when he went into the street, the boys gathered around him, crying out "There goes the blue man!" A case is mentioned in the *London Medical Gazette*, of an epileptic who was "cured" by nitrate of silver, but eventually died of diseased liver and dropsy; "all the internal viscera were more or less blue."

To be Continued.

THE CHOLERA IN RIGA,

BY DR. JAMES LEMBEKE

(From a private communication.)—Translated by Dr. F. Humphreys, of Utica, N. Y.

From the 1st of July, at which time the Cholera was officially announced to exist in the city to 17th of the same month our Journal gives the following: Number of cases, 2855, of whom, 874 have recovered, 1038 have died, and 943 are yet sick. The number of deaths is certainly correct, yet there are doubtless many more cases than those reported, as many in the more remote parts of the city were treated by their friends and restored without a physician being called in; at least I knew of many persons, who have made use of the Camphor treatment.

In the Spring season, we had many cases of Nervous Fever, afterwards Intermittent Fever prevailed, which gave us a good deal of trouble; but these all disappeared towards the close of July. In Mitau there were some cases of Scariatina. At this time, there are at the Strand, 3 miles from Riga, only 7 or 10 cases, and almost entirely among persons who have come from Riga. In Mitau, the Cholera is now very sparse; on the contrary, it is more prevalent in Wilna and Witepsk, in the flat lands there is none at all. Some cases of Dysentery have appeared in the immediate vicinity of Riga.

The first cases before the 1st of July, appeared in very scattered and widely different localities. We cannot say that any part of the city has remained entirely free; only, persons living in damp, moist dwellings, with bad nourishment, unhealthy food, tiplers, and those in crowded houses and living in poor circumstances, were more easily affected. Fear, often brought on the Cholera. That any one has been infected by the breath or excrements of the patients is to me unknown. Cold water for drink, had apparently an injurious action, as it not only with healthy persons, excited rumbling in the abdomen and diarrhœa, but in the sick, notwithstanding the intense desire for cold drinks, appeared to keep up and sustain the vomiting and diarrhœa; ice also effected nothing. On the contrary, some patients longed after warm milk, and to others were given milk and water, and this drink appeared not only not to increase the diarrhœa and vomiting, but very much to relieve it. Tea of Linden Flowers or Toast Water made of Wheat Bread with some Claret

or Port Wine, was also given to patients. During the prevalence of the epidemic, all were more or less affected with the following unusual symptoms; extreme lassitude, copious sweats, especially at night, great thirst, which seemed insatiable, vertigo, feeling as if they should fall, less in a room than in the street, or on a height; great oppression, anxiety, as if one had committed some great evil, much rumbling in the abdomen, disturbed sleep, diarrhœa, yellow, green, brown, without pain, at times with urging, mostly forcibly discharged. With others there was violent burning in the chest and abdomen, as from fire, with extreme anxiety, inquietude and lassitude. In the feet and calves prickling and stinging, and even hard knobs, with a feeling as if cramp would every moment come on, at night waking one out of sleep. The appetite was only increased in a few cases. The Cholera was very liable to be developed from a diarrhœa. It is remarkable that when these precursors had only continued for a couple of days and were cured, although there had been only 1 or 2 stools daily, there remained behind an extreme degree of lassitude and considerable emaciation. So far as my observation extends the stools in the Cholera were rarely or never in the night.

We have had until the present fine weather by night and day, for three days together, thunder and seasonable rain, yet we perceive after it no diminution in the number of cases. My brother from Polesa, where the Cholera has now continued for some weeks and carried off 100 victims daily, writes me that he had remarked an increase of the disease after rainy days. So far as I have experienced, our magnet carries its usual load. Yet there are some days on which there are well marked deteriorations in the case of those patients who had already become better, and when new attacks come on without our being able to discover any cause; it appears to me that these attacks come on mostly soon after midnight, I know some persons in whom going over the bridge of the moat surrounding the city produces regularly an urging to stool. The river water used as drink appears especially injurious. Sea bathing produces among people not daily accustomed to its use, vertigo, nausea, and diarrhœa, which is sometimes followed by cramp, and an unhappy termination. From the 1st to the 30th of July inclusive, the number of cases of Cho-

lera was 5287, of which 2752 recovered, 1766 died, and 769 were yet under treatment.

Whether the *Veratrum* and *Cuprum* have been employed as prophylactic medicines or not, I do not know. *Phosphorus*, 6 or 3, helps against most cases of *Cholera* or the precursors of *Cholera*. Where there was burning as of fire, in the stomach and chest, with other suitable circumstances. *Arsenicum* 4-10 cured with astonishing quickness. Where there was great lassitude, oppression of the chest, with regular or only slightly increased stools, *Carbo veg.* 6, was at times appropriate. Sometimes a condition remained afterwards, seldom stools before which there were not violent pains in the abdomen, for which *Colocynth* was curative. Some Dysenteric cases, small bloody slimy stools with violent tenesmus and severe pains, yielded quickly to *Merc. corr.* 6.

The Spirits of Camphor was only appropriate to those cases in the beginning, where the cramps predominated, and the nausea and diarrhœa were less considerable, then came on general warm sweat, which was promoted by covering, warm tea or milk, with hot water; if the cramps attacked single parts, these were rubbed with Spirits of Camphor or dry, and warm oats or sand applied to the body.

Jatropha 4, only relieved the immense gushing out of fluids from the body, the diarrhœa was not benefited by it and the cramps appeared even to become worse. *Secale* 4, afforded nothing in this condition, but appeared to increase the cramps in the toes especially, which were bent upwards. But *Cuprum metal.* 5, relieved in this condition, when there were cramps, diarrhœa of the usual character, little or no vomiting, cold sweat, hoarseness, blue lips and nails, thirst, no urine, cold extremities, the pulse yet to be felt, the oppression of the chest moderate, face and tongue cold and the skin standing in folds. In one case where after the use of *Acid. hydrocyan.* 2, all the symptoms were better, but *Trismus* supervened, *Cuprum* 5, soon afforded relief.

The worst cases are the Asphyctic, and all which I have seen of this kind have died. Sometimes the urinary secretion had already set in; with others, there appeared only shortly before death, which was not so soon expected a quite natural stool, or the tongue and extremities became warm, the pulse revived and was again to be felt, though weak, the hearing was good and entire consciousness,

yet the patients quietly sank down to death. In other cases, hardness of hearing, dark thickening of the vessels of the conjunctiva, pulselessness, hoarseness, even with otherwise improved appearances were sure indications of dissolution. With some, there came on towards the end, entire unconsciousness, tossing about, throwing everything from them, dilated pupils, cheeks dark red, playing into blue, loss of hearing and extreme oppression of the chest. The vomiting and diarrhœa at times disappeared, when the paralysis of the lungs and heart set in; or the evacuations passed unconsciously, though the patients were otherwise fully conscious, drank much, cried continually for air, and finally died with all the symptoms of the Asphyctic form.—When this condition came on, the cramps also disappeared, and only a slight drawing and feeling of pain in the extremities remained; only, the spasm of the chest was sometimes associated with the last named form.

The Camphor was only appropriate at the commencement of the attack. *Arsen.* 3, and higher potencies, and also *Verat.* 3 and higher availed something only so long as the spasms were wanting or quite subordinate; when they became more violent, *Cuprum* 5 was in place, and yet in the worst cases, the symptoms of the asphyctic form so soon came on, little or wanting pulse, cold sweat, standing folds of the skin, sunken eyes, with blue circles, blue lips and nails, oppressed respiration with which the diarrhœa and cramp disappeared, that we were obliged soon to take refuge in *Laurocerasus*, *Carbo veg.* and *Acid. hydrocyan.* *Laurocera.*, 2 and 1, availed me nothing. *Carbo veg.*, 30 and 6, appeared to be appropriate where the pulse was yet perceptible, the skin yet warm, and still some urine, with hoarseness, blueish lips, blue rings under the eyes, sunken eyes, oppressed breathing, immense prostration and the characteristic discharges. *Acid. hydrocyan* 2, afforded good service in the worst cases of the asphyctic form; in some cases it sustained life for 28 hours, which every moment threatened to become extinguished, and then followed a mild death with consciousness. It was in this case given at intervals of 1-4 hour, and then 1 to 2 hours, and then again to 1-4 hour.

I regret that I did not give the remedy more frequently and in 1st potencies, in cases in which an improvement had already commenced, and yet finally terminated fatally.

For some cases which ended favorably, where the relatives of the patient clearly gave more frequently from the vial, Acid hydroc. 2, appear to speak in favor of it. A case also which threatened every moment to end by asphyxia, and I administered Kali hydrocyana Liebig 1, dilute 1 to 100, every 1-4 hour, and then less frequently; and warmth of the surface, even some urine, yet very weak pulse again returned, and yet the patient died. After 16 hours, appear to encourage larger and more frequently repeated doses of this remedy. (In the case of this last patient, the relatives notwithstanding the improvement and entirely without my knowledge, during the last 6 hours of his life, had used other remedies between the doses of medicines left.)

Through the remarks made by Dr. Kurtz, in the 20th No. of Vol. 31 of the Allg. Hom. Zeitung, I proved the Kali hydrocyan. upon myself, during one year, in the 1st and 2nd trit., then in the first dilution. The symptoms are numerous and I shall yet farther experiment with it. I employed the Kali hydroc. according to Liebig's formula. Chloroform, according to a proving instituted upon myself, appeared to be not without value, beside Acid hydroc. What we have to hope from cold washings I know not; in private practice there are many obstacles to its employment, and if we reflect that vitality is paralysed in its deepest source, reactions are not to be expected from a mere irritation; but whatever the indication is, the re-action itself is first to be restored, hence we should not *a priori*, anticipate much from this procedure. One of the allopathic physicians, brought into use here the wrapping up of the patients in a sheet soaked in salt water; if it had been successful we should have heard further from it. From Serepta the following was recommended: Oleum Sinapis Aeth. 4 drops; Water, 6 oz.; Alcohol, 2 oz.; to be given in spoonful doses; the same remedy has been employed in Persia.

In Lithauen and Poland, the people made use of brown—unbolted—bread, burned to a coal, and with it also the Camphor Spirits and Tinct. of Capsicum, yet the success is said to have been good.

Mr. Schultz, of Pernaú, related to the medical faculty, and these to the physicians the following: He found himself in Montreal in 1832, when the Cholera prevailed in a most fearful manner. An old Indian appeared and restored the people in a short time by means

of a very simple remedy,—Charcoal with Maple Syrup,—the epidemic declined, and the people regarded the old man as their preserver. What form of the Cholera prevailed in Canada we are not informed; yet the above testimony of a plain man is not without interest to homœopathy, in a scientific point of view.

The apothecaries here made great sale of Charcoal Pills, and plasters, and also as preservative means; and next to the Peppermint Tea, these had the greatest run. And indeed the Carbo veg. deserves as well as the Verat. and Cup. to be recommended as a prophylactic. It would be interesting to know whether persons who had made use of Charcoal powder for cleansing the teeth had remained free from the disease.

We now and then hear of a vein being opened by an allopathic physician, yet no blood followed; sweating apparatus, and Ascet: of Ferrum (Ferri Acetas), in Acetic Aether (I believe according to Rademacher), were for a long time employed, yet I knew nothing certain of their success; but now these remedies appear to be abandoned.

In Mitau, where for the last fortnight only scattered cases of Cholera have appeared, it has now since the first of August, broken out with great violence. Also Intermitting Fevers, according to accounts from private sources, were more prevalent during the spring season in this latter city than in Riga. Mitau lays more open, has broader streets, gardens around the houses, none or very few basement dwellings, which abound here.

3rd and 9th August. Intermitting fevers have appeared again. I know of some persons who had passed through the Intermitting Fever which prevailed before the Cholera, who are now attacked, and also of others on the contrary where only those persons in a family remained free from the disease who had had the ague but a short time previous. Although the number of patients and the suddenness of the course of the disease has very much abated, there are yet cases, where even with robust persons and under favorable circumstances, without the least known cause, after many discharges and some cramps continuing for some hours, suddenly an immense prostration comes on; cold moist skin, blue lips, nails, arms, and under the eyes; cold tongue, no pulse, oppressed respiration, standing folds of the skin, hoarseness, which condition continues 12 or more

hours until death ends the scene, during which the discharges disappear or become seldom, and the spasm is changed into a drawing. In such cases the Camphor appears to be of no service, but more Acid hydrocyan. 2, and Carbo veg. 6, and 3 trit., at least these serve to sustain life the longest.

Friction of the limbs was entirely without avail, even when the arms and legs had been rubbed sore and bloody nothing was gained; much more relief was afforded by a soft stroking and pressing of the spasmodically contracted muscle with the bare hand, which has this advantage that it may be performed under the clothing and the patient not so much uncovered which is not to be prevented while rubbing the extremities with flannel rolls.

While the peppermint tea and drops was being used on all sides as a preventive for the Cholera to so great an extent as to drain the market of the article, the Medical Inspector, Reinfelt, issued a warning in the Official Journal, where he says: "The evident injury which many persons are inflicting upon their health, by the untimely use of the peppermint tea and other heating medicines, and the mixing of them with spirits, (Cholera Schnaps), in the hope of preserving themselves against the Cholera, should be regarded as hardly less injurious than the use of cucumbers, &c.; and I think it my duty to urgently warn all persons against them." We relate this on account of the remarkable contrast between this warning and the recommendation of many allopathic physicians, by which the poor public are thrown into the greatest uncertainty, as until now the peppermint tea has been an almost universal medicine, and we homœopaths only have lifted our warning voice against it.

From the 1st of July to the 8th of August, inclusive, there have been—Cases, 6041. Restored, 3639. Died 1953. Yet sick, 449.

The number of deaths is greater than it was in 1831, notwithstanding that from the presence of troops and enlarged commerce, there were at that time 50,000 more persons in Riga than now. Also in Pernau and Dorpat, which towns escaped in 1831, they have now the Cholera.

MR. EDITOR:—The great homœopathic propagandist, Dr. Mure of Rio Janeiro has communicated to me the 1st and 2d numbers

of the new (Portuguese) Brazilian Homœopathic Journal, edited by him. As it contains many points of interest, I will subjoin, with the assistance of my friend, Dr. Campos, of Norfolk, Virginia, an analysis of it for the benefit of our American brethren.

Title of the Journal:—"The Science" (Sciencia) Synthetical Review of Human Knowledge, edited by the Professors of the Homœopathic School at Rio Janeiro.

The Journal is published once a month, beginning from July 1847. Price \$15 per annum.

Letters, Essays, etc. to be addressed to Dr. Mure, No. 59 Rua de St. José.

No. 1.

ART. 1. Science, general view of it.—Establishment of facts, etc., etc.

2 Professors of the Hom. College.

Senior Luiz Antonio de Castro, Professor of Philosophical Medicine, having the same Professorship at Rio, before he became converted to Homœopathy, by Mure.

Dr. Sin. Major Joseph Vitorino dos Santos, Professor of Natural Sciences, and formerly Professor of Mathematics in the Military School of Rio Janeiro. This gentleman has been an original observer in many respects.

Dr. Ildeponso Gomos, Professor of Botany. Although this gentleman had declined to lecture when asked to do so by the Government, he nevertheless, from his love of Homœopathy, accepted the chair of Botany.

3. Science, a poetical rhapsody.

4. Astronomy and Geology.

Essay on the changes of the Ancient Equator, a very excellent article, containing many new hypothesis and new ideas.

5 Lecture on the Philosophy of Medicine by Professor Castro.

6. *Homœopathy*, by Professor Castro.

7 Description of a solemn meeting of the Homœopathic Institute of Brazils, on the Anniversary of S. Hahnemann's death, the 21st of July.

No. 2 OF THE SCIENCIA.

ART. 1. Homœopathic Thesis on the theory of Life and Nutrition, by Dr. Mure.

2. Physiology.

3. Clinical cases by Dr. T. B. P. de Figueiredo.

The Homœopathic physicians of Brazils seem to use all medicine in the 5th dilu-

tion, following the idea of Dr. Waple in Rome, according to whom all medicines lose power after the fifth dynamization, and that shaking will answer the same purpose, as dilution

4. Letter from a Brazilian Hom. Colleague traveling in Europe.

5. *Glory of Brazilian Homœopathy.*

In Brazil upwards of 40 substances, belonging exclusively to the Brazilian Flora* have been tried by the professors and disciples of the Homœopathic School, as well as other persons, who were willing to experiment upon themselves. Most of these articles have been of the greatest service in many diseases, which could not be cured without the employment of indigenous Brazilian plants, because these diseases seem to resist the action of European medicaments, the production of other climates. (When Dr. Campos, of Norfolk, Va., was in Brazil, 30 years ago, he did not succeed in curing an attack of Hæmorrhoids with the usual allowed remedies. A physician of the country told him, if you think, that you can cure diseases in this climate by the remedies found in books, you will be mistaken; throw your science overboard for a time and use Capsicum externally and internally. This, as he was then an allopath, was strange to him, but he did use it and became cured at once. This is a hot country, requiring hot remedies, said the Doctor, thus unconsciously avowing himself an advocate of the principle, *similia similibus*.)

6. Parallel between the Homœopathic Institute of Paris, and that of Brazil.

7. Account of the present state of Homœopathy in Paris and all over the world.

8. Treats of the "High Dynamizations" and speaks favorably of them.

9. Pathogenesis of Brazil. Collections made in the Homœopathic School of Rio Janeiro, beginning with *crotalus horridus*. Then follow some very interesting symptoms.

Leprosy, known by the name of *morphia e mal de S. Lazaro* is supposed to be cured by *Crotalus horridus*. The action of *Crotalus* according to the Brazilian Homœopaths is more lasting and more

penetrating than that of *Lachesis*. It will finish the cure of many diseases, which *Lachesis* has mitigated, but not cured. Certain forms of Epilepsy and mental alienations find in this remedy a most valuable curative. The snake from which the poison is taken, comes from the province of *Ceara*.

10. Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce, approving of the Homœopathic practice on the ground that all new systems ought to be tried.

11. Article on Brazil as the only country, where the government, owing to the intrigues of half a dozen Allopathists has prohibited the establishment of a Homœopathic clinic.

In a note in the envelope the editor again remarks that the second edition of the "*Practical Elementar*," a new elementary Homœopathic work, contains the symptoms of fifty new remedies, belonging exclusively to Brazil and which have been experimented upon in the Homœopathic School of Rio Janeiro. The book also indicates the clinical application of these precious agents.

I am also requested by Dr. Mure to announce to the Homœopathic physicians of North America, that he has a work in press treating of the following topics.

The doctrine of the Homœopathic school of Rio Janeiro and a methodical explanation of Homœopathy.

A description of the new machine for the trituration and succussion of the medicines, as well as a new machine for drawing the air out of the vials and rendering them air-tight.

The physiological Homœopathic law, and the new theory of nutrition.

The posological theory and that of chronic diseases, which completes it.

The symptomatological algebra.

The philosophical classification of pathological agents, and finally 36 pure experiments, co-ordinated according to our principles.

And these parts comprehend a series of entirely new and original data. They cannot fail of mooted important questions for the future standing of our art. Dr. Mure will thankfully receive any suggestions that may arise in the mind of the reader. Even criticism, if it is only just and earnest, will be welcome because it will substitute more valuable materials for such as are condemned as defective.

* I have made arrangements to procure these from Brazil, as well as the "Practice Elementar" containing a description of their symptoms.

The work is to appear at the end of March next.

Phila., June, 1849. C. NEIDHARD, M. D.

CHOLERA IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

During the past month a good deal of alarm has prevailed among our citizens on account of the prevalence of a disease among them which has been termed *Asiatic Cholera*. That an epidemic of some sort exists in this city cannot be doubted, and that it is of the character of Cholera, there can be no question, although a few Physicians, very wise in their own conceit, declare that not a single case of *Asiatic Cholera* has appeared in this city. We will leave these gentlemen undisturbed in the full possession of all the pride and folly which a high degree of modern pathology inspires its votaries.

The disease in question may as well be named *Cholera* as any thing else, although there is a difference in the symptoms of individual cases, yet when these are combined, the character of the cases is strikingly similar. To distinguish this disease, the symptoms of a number of cases should be united, and in this way its true character will be readily perceived.

It is strong proof of the truth of homœopathy, that the pathogenesis of *Veratrum album* as recorded in the "symptomen-codix," furnishes nearly all the peculiarities of *Asiatic Cholera*; and no one remedy has yet been discovered so generally certain in arresting the progress of that disease and effecting a cure of it. As one man, physicians of the homœopathic school throughout the world testify to the curative power of *Veratrum* in the Cholera. If with the above we examine the pathogenesis of *Cuprum metallicum*, we shall have all the varieties, or nearly so, of the *Cholera*, and with these two remedies properly employed, that disease becomes one of the most manageable with which we are acquainted. We have almost not proscribed any others than these, and with complete success. Only a few hours ago, a young lady after neglecting a slight diarrhœa for several days, was suddenly affected with sickness at stomach, vomiting, faintness or a feeling of sinking, or prostration; ice coldness of the extremities, cold sweat, with a dying look of the countenance, and cramps of the legs. The touch of another person by the hand, caus-

ed her to exclaim "your hand burns me." A messenger came for us in haste, and not being at home, our good wife sent a few pellets, moistened with the 30th attenuation of *Veratrum album*, which were placed upon her tongue. We saw this young lady an hour afterwards, almost entirely relieved of her sufferings. She stated, that in a moment after the medicine was placed upon her tongue, she felt relief, which gradually continued, to the time we saw her.

Prompt effects similar to this case from *Veratrum* and *Cuprum*, but especially of the former, we have experienced in our own practice in numerous cases during the last month.

The diminishing confidence of our citizens in allopathic practice, is distinctly perceived by all except the practitioners themselves; who are gravely engaged in inquiring into the *pathology* of cholera, but as necessity compels them sometimes to act, in the absence of an established *pathology*, they administer calomel in large and repeated doses; camphor and opium united in pills; also aqua ammonia and some other drugs. If any reliance can be placed upon the Board of Health's reports, this sort of practice results in the death of nearly one half; for so long as our Board of Health allows itself to be controlled by a "medical counsel" of allopathic physicians, — homœopathic physicians will refuse to report their cases except in case of death; and to the credit of pure homœopathy, we have not heard of a single case of death, where this practice, unmixed with allopathy was persevered in.

The cause, whatever it may be, which gives rise to the present epidemic, effects almost every individual; hence, uneasiness of the bowels, is more or less experienced by every one. Some of our most respected citizens have fallen victims, not to the disease, but to the pernicious allopathic practice. We have had cases related to us, where some half dozen allopaths were in attendance; the monstrous dosings of calomel, opium, camphor, brandy, &c., together with blisters, bleedings, hot water, hot air, &c., &c., were enough to cause death, in sound persons. If however in this age, persons can be found so utterly destitute of judgement or the commonest sense to submit to such means to cure a disease, we would almost say they deserve their melancholy fate for their stupidity.

When this epidemic will cease, cannot be

foreseen, and all speculations on this point are useless.

The Annalist proposes to the New York Academy of Medicine to appoint a committee to investigate the atmosphere: but that association is almost defunct, and those who may be induced to attend its meetings, which we understand numbers only about twenty, will hardly undertake an analysis of the atmosphere, for the purpose of detecting the *cholera miasm*, lest they might subject themselves to the just ridicule they received from the press while discussing the contagious or infectious nature of Cholera. We anticipate however, that after awhile we shall be flooded with learned speculations on this subject, as it has been suggested that the atmosphere at present, contains *ozone*: what this is we do not know; but a learned friend tells us, that it is *oxygen*; if this be so, and if there really exists an increased quantity of that gas in the atmosphere, it may account for the seemingly deranged state of mind indicated in some of the productions of physicians in regard to the *Cholera*.

ADVERTISED CHOLERA REMEDIES.

It has been said that it is an easy thing to deceive the public. We have had our doubts of the truth of this remark, but during the prevalence of the *Cholera* in this city, our confidence in the intelligence of the mass of our people under the influence of an epidemic like the one now existing, has diminished. The most serious deceptions have been practiced upon them through the means of the press. Few indeed seem to have knowledge of the *ways* of the press; and in consequence of the absence of this knowledge, hundreds, yea, thousands become the dupes of the designing and unprincipled. The press has been resorted to, by druggists, by quack medicine merchants, by physicians individually, and collectively, urging their claims upon the community to relieve it from the death grasp of the *Cholera*. As it respects advertising we do not complain of that, but we do not think it right on the payment of an extra amount of money, advertisements should appear as the voluntary work of the Editor, who is not suspected of having any other object than the public good. This is an evil of magnitude, especially in regard to medicine. This is one of the *ways* of the press, which the people should understand, or they will be imposed

upon, as many have been, and thereby parted with their money, with their health, and in some instances with their lives. As a general thing, no recommendation of any remedy, or of any mode of practice in the cure of Cholera by a newspaper, especially where an individual is alluded to, but it is a regular paid advertisement, at an extra rate for a seeming endorsement of the Editor. We think, on the whole, it is the safest to disregard everything recommended in the newspapers for Cholera, and each one consult his own physician, whatever quality he may be of. We had rather trust to the advice of the weakest of the weak in the profession, than to run the risk of our judgment in the various remedies, modes of living, &c., &c., urged upon the people in the newspapers.

A single prescription for *Cholera* inserted in one of our daily papers, would put thousands of dollars into the pockets of the druggists in a single day, especially when the Editor endorses it, or seems to do so. There is, however, such an appetite among the people to swallow drugs, that in writing this article we shall probably only have our labor for our pains. We will not interfere with the rights of any one to swallow what he pleases, but we want him to do the thing understandingly: when he drinks poison we wish the label to be upon it, that he may know what he is swallowing. There are probably a few who prefer death to life, and yet they do not dare to commit direct suicide, but to "whip the devil around the stump," they swallow large quantities of advertised medicines, and when death comes by this means, the blame they think rests upon the advertisers and the editors, and in no sense upon themselves. Well, we suppose, men can in some instances, choose their own way, to get out of this world and into the next; and those who prefer a slow but sure poison under the advice of advertisements, may gratify their inclination in this respect, and no one, in this republican country should object. Seriously, this drug eating and drug drinking is a formidable matter which can only be corrected by the influence of the truly educated members of the profession. And there is but one way to exert this influence successfully, and that is, by curing the sick promptly, safely and certainly.

"*Professional Decline.*—On the ninth page of an introductory recently given at the Philadelphia College of Medicine, by Henry Gibbons, M. D., one of the faculty, the following sentence occurs:—"Our profession has declined in public estimation within the present century, whilst it has been advancing in its claims and merits beyond all precedent. Mankind appear to have but little more respect for it now than in the days when medical science was but a jumble of superstition and empiricism, and when practitioners were banished from Rome as public pests. To make such an acknowledgment is disagreeable; but if the contemplation of the picture should lead to an effort to correct the evil, and bring about a better state of things, the confession may prove salutary." Morifying as this declaration is to those intimately identified with this maltreated profession, it is verily true, that the most learned, morally eminent and excellent, in the ranks of medical practitioners, are not placed higher in the mind of the great community, than natural bonesetters, seventh sons, itinerant mesmerizers. A few indeed, in all communities, appreciate a cultivated understanding, and honor talent and science; but the multitude of men and women care no more about educational qualifications, genius, or experience in a physician, than they do about the police regulations in the planet Mars. A doctor is a doctor, to them, the world over. The more he lowers himself to the vulgar level, the higher place he has in their estimation. The author of the discourse barely speaks this above a whisper, as though it were a profound secret; nevertheless, it is just what everybody knows, and what a certain order of responsible, thinking people lament, without the power of changing so erroneous a public sentiment.

Dr. Gibbons has introduced several historical memoranda, which show the ages of darkness which civilized man has passed through; while the condition of the present exhibits quite as many absurdities in their vigor as envisioned those past generations.—Medicine offers finer opportunities for a hypocritical display of humanity than any other which pretends to minister to the temporal wants or necessities of our nature—and hence it has been cursed, from the birth of the father of physic, with armies of knaves. But ignorance is in the majority, and with a stentorian voice hails with delight the approach of a quack, because he is not trammelled or embarrassed by the dogmas of schools. No—he is a freeman, addressing himself to those who imagine they are themselves capable of appreciating merit and detecting imposture, when the fact is they are not capable of one or the other. Dr. Gibbons evidently knows much more than he says in regard to this matter; so, without wearying the reader with an entertainment of only one dish, he wisely draws off the attention to the grave consideration of the value of medical jurisprudence, the importance of which was never over-rated by its best friends. Students should be drilled in

it, that they may make science subservient to the law.—*Boston Medical and Surg. Jour.*

We deplore the condition of things complained of by our cotemporary. The mischief has not arisen from a love of truth; but the love of money is the root of the evil. A truly honest man cannot get a living in this cheating world; is a pernicious sentiment, received by too many of all classes. Most of our young men who graduate from our colleges, somehow or other, become impressed with the idea, that success in their profession essentially depends upon a sort of *tact*, which has its foundation in hypocrisy; but after awhile, the public become suspicious of them and respect for the profession through their conduct, gradually diminishes; and thereby the door opens for genuine quacks, whose hypocrisy usually excels those of the diploma.

There are three things which young physicians should know, and except under pressing circumstances, they should be to them fixed rules. They are, 1st. Never change a location. 2nd. Labor to cure diseases better than others. 3rd. Never by word or act indulge in detraction towards a fellow practitioner.

He who abides by these rules for a few years and fails to secure the respect and confidence of the profession, and of the people in his neighborhood, may safely conclude that he has mistaken his calling, and had better engage in some other business. The custom of physicians in this country of changing their location, interferes very much with their interest, and to some extent with the character of the profession; nearly thirty years observation has established this in our own mind. When a young man is ready to enter upon the practice of medicine, let him select his location with the utmost care, and after he fixes upon the place, let him feel and let the people feel that it is his home, and that he is one of them forever.

We have had the pleasure during our time of a personal acquaintance with hundreds of our brethren, and we have rarely known an instance of success in any one of these, who changed his residence, unless it was very soon after his graduation or while he was yet quite a young man. In the very nature of the thing it cannot be otherwise.

It is the sole duty of the physician to re-

lieve the sick. To prevent him taking on airs, inconsistent with his character and disgusting to those in intercourse with him, he should zealously, honestly, continually and thoroughly study diseases and their treatment. He should be a man of but one business.—The faithful performance of his duties, quietly, steadily, perseveringly and pleasantly is what the people expect of him, and he will certainly be rewarded with their confidence, a full supply of money, and an honorable mention among his colleagues.

Altercations among physicians, are not only unreasonable and needless, but fraught with much evil. Too many seem to think, that his colleagues are in his way, and that a want of success has nothing to do with his own bad management; but that it comes of the envy, jealousy and opposition of cotemporaries.—One of the errors in this matter consists in regarding that an opposition, which is only a laudable emulation. That physician who does not cultivate in himself, the Christian graces of humility, meekness, gentleness and patience, will be unhappy, unsettled, irritable, fault finding and overbearing: and if to these be added the habit of evil speaking, then it would be a wonder indeed if he received the approbation of the people, or his professional brethren, or that his influence would tend to the interest of the profession at large.

If every physician would at once mend his own manners, and allow himself to feel and acknowledge some intelligence among the people in regard to the profession and its duties, we think a short period only would elapse, and the true position of every one would be understood. To expect all physicians to be equally learned or equally skilled, is unreasonable; and whoever marks a plan having its basis in this idea, will fail in the object, for the thing is impossible. This accounts for the failure hitherto of all associations of medical men to elevate the profession, and give dignity, honor and influence to its members. To accomplish this very desirable end, each one must "act well his part" in his own sphere, with the ability with which he is endowed. Conventional rules will not amount to much; the formation of small societies or cliques is an evil.

What we have said above, is not inconsistent with a close and even severe criticism of any doctrine or practice which might be ad-

vocated. For example, we are opposed to allopathy or the doctrine of Galen; not allopathic physicians. They are opposed to homœopathy or the doctrine of Hahnemann; not homœopathic physicians. If the present controversy is only personal, then it is worthy the scorn of the wise and the good. We will battle against opinions put forth by our colleagues, but not against them. We will study with all our might, argue with our whole strength, write as strongly as we can in favor of the doctrine we believe to be true, and in opposition to that we believe to be false; but we will not have the sin of evil speaking, or detraction upon us towards the most obscure member of the profession.

THE CHOLERA AND ITS HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT,

BY DR. F. HUMPHREYS, OF UTICA, N. Y.

pp. 72. *Wm. Radde, publisher.* 1849.

This work we understand was published several months ago, but a copy of it did not reach us until last week. There is much valuable historical information of the homœopathic treatment of the Cholera, to be found in this volume. The statistics show, that that of 3017 cases, 2753 were cured, and 264 died; or a proportion of eight and a half per cent.

"Such results," says, Dr. H., "occurring in portions of country where the mortality under the ordinary methods of treatment varied from fifty to sixty or even to seventy per cent., could not fail to attract attention. The result was, that several European governments which had adopted stringent measures to prevent the spread of this medical heresy, either relaxed or abolished them altogether; the attention of the public was directed to this source; and many physicians of skill and eminence were induced to study and investigate the new method of practice. From that day a brighter era has dawned upon homœopathy, and both in Europe and in this country her increase and extension has been most triumphant and satisfactory."

Dr. H. furnishes a clear and concise statement of the varieties of Cholera and their treatment. The remedies he recommends are those heretofore named in this Journal. There is in fact, no essential difference in the homœopathic school in regard to the remedial agents in Cholera. It is worthy of notice, however, just at this time that *Sul-*

phur is put forth, not only as useful in that disease, but it is stated that "Dr. Herring," of Philadelphia, Pa., "is of the opinion that *Sulphur* is an important remedy, not only as a prophylactic, but in the treatment of the disease itself; but as his views are based upon his own observations and opinions, which we could not offer in detail, we simply content ourselves with mentioning the fact, and calling the attention of practitioners to that."

It will thus be perceived that the boasted discovery of a Dr. Bird, of Chicago, Ill., after all the flourish made about it, he really cannot claim originality. As it regards his *ozone* theory, even that, his own friends say he cannot claim as his own. It is a silly affair, and not of the slightest importance who is the author it. We have been informed that in one of our Cholera Hospitals, with an allopath at its head, the *Sulphur* and Charcoal treatment of Dr. Bird, has been tried and utterly failed. This, however does not amount to much in our estimation, and we do not condemn the treatment on this ground. There are few medicines, if any, so well understood by practitioners of the homœopathic school as *Sulphur*. It cannot be relied on in the treatment of Cholera, except in certain cases where occasionally it is indicated, but only in alternation with other drugs. It is true, that many of the cholera symptoms, are found in the pathogenesis of *Sulphur*, but they are not so complete as in *Veratrum*.

If the crude *Sulphur*, as recommended by Dr. Bird, was as active in its effects on the human system, as is the attenuated sulphur usually employed by homœopaths, the mischief that would arise by his doses would be serious to many, especially in scrofulous persons. The reputation of Dr. Bird on account of his *discovery* will be short-lived; for his prescription will very soon be found of no value.

Dr. Humphreys says on page 42 of the work under notice, "During the present epidemic of Cholera in Europe, the *Veratrum* has fully and even more than sustained its former reputation. And while some remedies as the sequel will show, have declined in estimation and value, owing to a change in the phase of the disease, the worth and influence of this has been rising."

We have not space to say more of this work. It is valuable, and should be in the hands of every physician. We do not know how rapid the sale of it has been; we think,

however, the publisher, has not duly brought "*Humphreys on Cholera*," before the profession. We hope he will do so.

HOMŒOPATHY.

At a meeting of homœopathic physicians of Northern Ohio, held at Cleveland, on the 16th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of establishing a Medical College in the city of Cleveland, Dr. J. Wheeler was appointed President, and Dr. C. D. Williams, Secretary.

The following resolutions were read, discussed, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved. That as a body, we are determined to labor one and all until a Medical College shall be established in the West, where the students of homœopathy and its collateral branches can be educated, and not be subjected to the insults, and illiberalties of Allopathic Colleges, and National Allopathic conventions.

Resolved. That Drs. S. Rosa of Painesville, B. W. Richmond of Chardon, C. D. Williams, J. Wheeler and Thos. Miller of Cleveland, and A. H. Burritt of Garrettsville are appointed a committee of correspondence, to communicate with the friends of homœopathy generally, on the expediency of establishing a Hom. Med. College at Cleveland, and invite their counsel, co-operation and presence, and also to hold such other correspondence as the interests of homœopathy may demand, and report the results of their labor at our next meeting.

Resolved. That Drs. Wheeler, Williams and Burritt are appointed a committee to visit and confer with the trustees and faculty of the Oberlin College Institute, and solicit the use of their charter for the basis of a Medical Department at Cleveland, to be governed by the laws, rules, and regulations prescribed in the charter of said Institute, and report at the next meeting.

Resolved. That these resolutions be published in the American Journal of Homœopathy, Michigan Journal of Homœopathy, Southwestern Journal and Review, at St. Louis, Oberlin Evangelist, Milwaukie Journal, and the papers of this city.

Resolved. That this meeting now adjourn, to meet again at Cleveland on the 12th day of July next, at 10 A. M.

CHOLERA IN NEW YORK—SEVENTEEN YEARS AGO.

The following is a complete table of the cases of cholera which occurred in this city during the summer of 1832. The meteorological phenomena by which each day was marked accompanies the table.

1832.	Cases.	Deaths.	Weather, &c.	
July 4	7	4	Warm, Thermometer	
			12 M.	80
5	20	11	" " "	80
6	37	19	" " "	80
7	55	10	" " "	83
8	43	21	Cloudy, wind E.	80
9	105	28	Rain all day.	
10	109	44	Rain at intervals during the day and rain all night.	71
11	100	50	Rain till 10 A. M., afterwards clear and cool	67
12	119	51	Clear and cool.	70
13	101	49	Warm.	73
14	115	66	Pleasant.	71
15	133	74	"	71
16	163	94	Sultry.	77
17	143	60	Pleasant.	74
18	138	72	"	77
19	202	82	"	76
20	226	100	Rain all last night.	82
21	311	104	Very warm and close.	86
22	241	91	" " "	81
23	231	73	Pleasant.	80
24	296	96	Cloudy and cooler.	73
25	157	61	A thunder storm at 4 A. M.	76
26	141	55	Pleasant.	78
27	122	45	"	82
28	145	68	"	78
29	122	39	"	78
30	103	39	Rain all last night and till 10 A. M.	80
31	121	48	Rain, thunder and lightning last night.	77
Aug. 1	92	41	Continual showers.	76
2	81	34	Sultry.	80
3	90	24	Pleasant.	80
4	88	30	"	77
5	96	28	Sultry, wind SE.	84
6	101	37	" "	85
7	89	32	Frequent thunder showers.	84
8	82	21	Showery.	77
9	73	28	Pleasant.	73
10	100	27	"	79
11	76	33	"	78
12	67	23	"	77
13	105	23	Sultry.	81
14	42	15	"	82
15	75	26	"	84
16	79	26	Pleasant.	82
17	63	21	Rain.	82
18	76	19	Rain, wind N. E.	68
19	56	18	Cloudy and rain last night.	69
20	58	13	Pleasant.	71
21	52	18	"	76
22	48	22	"	77

23	72	28	"	75
24	45	20	"	72
25	37	14	"	77
26	50	23	"	79
27	27	13	"	78

The reports were not published after the 27th of August, up to which time there had been in New York, including Yorkville and Harlem, a total of 5,722 cases, and 2,196 deaths.

REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

The number of cases of *Cholera* reported daily by the Board of Health of this city on an average is about fifty: and the average number of deaths is twenty-five. The inference is, that nearly one half die of that disease. Thus an unnecessary alarm is kept up among our citizens. These reports are true, only in the number of deaths. The cases reported are in disproportion to the actual number; if the facts could be ascertained, it would be discovered that scarcely three cases in a hundred prove fatal. It would under the circumstances be far better for the Board to report the deaths only. We hope this plan will be adopted, for a large proportion of our physicians do not make known their cases; for the law requires them to report contagious or pestilential diseases, and the epidemic that now prevails among us is neither the one nor other. Then again, what one physician would name *Cholera*, another would designate by something else. If the standard was fixed, then the request of the Mayor would be cheerfully complied with, but there is no standard; as there is no set of symptoms pointed out, which would warrant a physician in his reports. Hence, one would regard *Cholera*, which is a mild form of that disease, as suitable to be reported, another would not do so, but report only those in or near a collapse. Another well grounded objection to reporting is, that after patients have been almost cured, the Resident Physician may visit them, see little or nothing of *Cholera*, and report as has been done, that it was an error, the case was not *Cholera*. We are not of those who have any very great respect for the opinions of resident physicians. In 1822, when the Yellow Fever was in this city—the late Dr. Walters, father of our present Cor-

oner, reported the first cases in Lumber street; they were visited by the then resident physician who pronounced them not Yellow Fever. Dr. W. being somewhat eminent in his profession was offended, and reported no more cases, although he had several. The Yellow Fever did prevail at that time, the opinion of the resident physicians to the contrary notwithstanding. We hope our Board of Health will not again employ a medical counsel. We cannot perceive their use, nor should the city incur such unnecessary expense.

HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF CHOLERA IN CINCINNATI.

In Cincinnati the success of the homœopathic treatment of the cholera has been such, that the physicians of that school, it is supposed, have not lost a single patient. However, in about four hundred cases of cholera treated by them, they have lost only four. Allopathy has lost, according to the report of the Board of Health, nearly one half of the cases treated by that *empirical system*. The Board of Health of that city was composed, as we understand, almost entirely of allopathic physicians. The homœopathic physicians declined reporting their cases to them; but made their reports through the *Daily Times*, the official city paper. The allopaths reported to the *Board of Health*, which was also published in the *Times*. The success of the one, and the failure of the other, which was made most clearly to appear, had the effect to awaken bad feelings among the allopaths, and several suits were commenced against homœopaths, for a breach of the ordinance in not reporting to the *Board of Health*. "The ordinance assesses a fine of from 5 to 500 Dollars for neglect to report all cases of malignant disease. It was proved that the cholera, when rightly treated was not *malignant*, and the suits were dismissed, amid "the shouts of the people," and the health officer was glad to escape the indignation of an excited populace. The general impression is, that it was not the cholera, but allopathic practice that killed the people. We learn from a communication from Dr. B. W. Richmond, published in the *Republican and Whig of Chardon, Ohio*, that the city council of *Cincinnati*, by a vote of 20 to 13 passed a resolution, to reorganise the *Board of Health*,

and introduce into it physicians of the homœopathic school. We doubt if the interests of truth in medicine will be promoted by even this sort of mixture. Allopathic physicians have deliberately chosen to exclude themselves from all intercourse with homœopathic physicians, which was unwise on their part; but of great advantage to homœopathia. We go for a complete separation of the two schools, especially as the allopaths themselves have elected such a course by conventional resolutions. If this professional exclusiveness results in breaking up all social intercourse, which is not necessary, why so be it; we cannot sacrifice an iota of truth in medicine for the smiles and bows of any man or set of men. No one values more than ourself, social pleasures; no one is more disposed to mix in friendly converse with members of the profession: but we renounce it all, if the progress of pure homœopathy is in the slightest degree to be retarded, or its crystal stream made turbid by a mixture of allopathy or eclecticism. We have tried allopathy, and that hypocritical branch of it—eclecticism; we know them to be the purest kinds of *empiricism*—uncertain—deceitful and pernicious. We have tried homœopathy—pure homœopathy—Hahnemannian homœopathy, based as it is, upon immutable laws, which when faithfully adhered to, will never disappoint the patient or the practitioner. We have tried this, we say, for many years, in thousands of cases of disease, with a gratification that should satisfy any mind as vain even as our own.

With an experience like ours, which by the by, does not differ from hundreds of others in Europe and in this country, we cannot but oppose directly or indirectly any mixture of the doctrines or practice of the two schools. We have repeatedly asserted in the columns of this Journal, that if homœopathy has any truth in it, it is all true, for such is its nature. If it is applicable to any one disease, it is so to all diseases. If it can cure scarlet fever which is admitted, and the Cholera which cannot be denied, it can cure every case of a curable disease. There is that in the principles which constitute Hahnemann's system, which will yet be developed in the relief of human sufferings, which cannot now be estimated. When homœopathic physicians all over our country, engage in the trial upon themselves, of indigenous plants, there will be a supply of means for prolonging human

life to the period decreed by the *Creator*. This, we know, will be regarded by some, as the ebullition of an excited mind, in pursuit of an object inspiring extravagant hope and confidence of success. But such a comment, by those numerous conservative minds in the medical profession, shall not deter us from the expression of opinions which have their foundation in developed laws created by God himself. Can any one believe from any revelation made to man by the DEITY, that more than one half of our population should die in infancy? God did not say that the kingdom of Heaven was made up of children, but of such in spirit. Do we not perceive causes enough in full play, tending to the destruction of human life, and in no sense connected with the will of God, but directly controlled by the willful ignorance of man? We set it down as a fixed fact, that the DEITY designs man to die of old age; and one man so ordered his life by the wisdom from above, that he could not die at all, and God took him out of the world alive, and made a permanent record of it. If the revelations made to man concerning himself in this world are true, then the course of life pursued by most of us, especially in the use of drugs, must inevitably place upon us the sin of suicide, or something closely allied to it. If a man swallows twenty grains of calomel, and allows himself to lose twenty or fifty ounces of blood by the hands of a physician, while the means to know are within reach, that such a course might destroy his life, he is guilty; and cannot plead ignorance in palliation. And so of every thing else, which tends to shorten or destroy life. Look at the hundreds and thousands now living, who by wilful ignorance on the part of themselves or their medical advisers or both, are rendered incapable of labor, or social enjoyment. Look at the thousands of our species, pale, emaciated, debilitated and unhappy, who can, and do, trace their condition to venesections and drugs prescribed by practitioners of allopathy; and in view of such sufferings from such causes we ask, can a rational mind that reasons at all on the subject, run the risk of being numbered among the wrecked constitutions of our race? Strike homœopathy out of the world, and there is no reason why allopathy should exist in it. Let practitioners of unmixed homœopathy stand firmly by the truths they profess, and a real, and a complete reform in medicine

will crown their efforts with success and themselves with honor.

AN IMPORTANT SUGGESTION.

Would it not subserve the interests of pure homœopathy in this city, if its practitioners would agree to report and publish daily under their own names the number of cases of cholera they treat, and the results. At the same time comply with the request of the Mayor, and send the same report to him. The object to be accomplished is, to avoid aiding allopaths in diminishing the per centage of deaths in the final reports, after the epidemic has subsided; and to exhibit to the public facts, that cannot be gainsayed of the superiority of the genuine homœopathic treatment of that disease. We do not perceive any thing improper in such a course. The *Board of Health* refuse us a *Hospital*, which we are ready to conduct under a mode of treatment as far removed from allopathy, as the two poles from each other. We have inquired of nine practitioners of homœopathy, all of whom have as many cases of the prevailing epidemic, as they can attend to, but not a single death. We will not undertake to state the number of cases treated, but we may do so hereafter.

PURE HOMŒOPATHIA, NOT DEFUNCT.

The opponents of homœopathy endeavor to make it appear, especially our friend Davis of the *Annalist*, that the homœopathic treatment of the cholera, as proposed by its pretended practitioners is after all, only modified allopathy. We cannot answer the *Annalist's* article because it would involve personalities which we always endeavor to avoid. We wish it, however understood, that only a part of the homœopathic practitioners of this city, are embraced in the "*Homœopathic Physicians Society*." If we should judge allopathic physicians as they do, there would be a continued course of mis-representation, detraction, and false accusation. We do not mean this to apply to the Editor of the *Annalist*, for unlike most other allopathic editors, he does attempt to reason in his articles against our system, although he is occasionally imposed upon by his correspondents.

It is, we should think, well understood by the readers of this Journal, that we do not,

and will not fraternize with what is known in the profession by the terms "mixed practice," "eclecticism" and "rational homœopathy."

It is nearly true, what is alledged by allopaths, that such a practice is hardly a remove from their own; and we regret that it sometimes happens, that the names of pretended homœopaths stand in relations, which would lead the public to believe that they are acknowledged orthodox disciples of *Hahnemann*, while they are, in fact, but the followers of *Rau* and *Galen*. The period, in our judgment, has arrived when this matter should be placed in its true light before the American people; if it is not, the charge of our opponents will not be altogether without a foundation. This can be done, without prejudice to any one. We admit it to be the right of any man to pursue a course of medical treatment he may think proper; at the same time, we claim the right to protect ourself from being placed in a position where our real sentiments are concealed, and thereby made to aid in the promulgation of doctrines, we not only disapprove, but regard pernicious.

There are in this city and in Brooklyn many genuine practitioners of homœopathy, who never under any circumstances find it necessary to deviate from those established principles of their art, in the treatment of the sick. After much reflection we have come to the conclusion that it is now time that these should be known, and were we authorized, their names should appear in this article. We regard it a duty these gentlemen owe to themselves, to the public, and to a true healing art, to unite, and show themselves the advocates and consistent practitioners of the system developed by *Hahnemann*. Those insidious doctrines of *Rau* have been indirectly fellowshipped before the public, in the persons of his disciples in Europe and in this country; in both the exclamation is, that "pure homœopathy is only known in name." The position we occupy demands of us solemnly to protest against such an unholy alliance. For already allopathy, the system of *Galen*, is actually, though gradually yielding, and becoming merged into *Rauism*. Some of our readers may not know what is meant by *Rauism*; we will try to inform them in the August No. of this Journal.

We can, having a knowledge of the fact, inform those interested, that pure homœopathy, is not defunct. She is alive, and in good health, and although she has hundreds of phy-

sicians in daily attendance upon her, yet contrary to the common opinion when a number of Doctors are engaged in consultation in a case, homœopathy has not suffered from such a circumstance; but on the contrary, she is now more fully developed in her beautiful proportions; she is walking forth — the admiration of those who gaze upon her. We admit however, there have been times when "eclecticism" has been thought by some to be homœopathy, and after gazing awhile they could see no comeliness in her, and have gone away unsatisfied and even disgusted. But some of these have learned that they were introduced to the wrong personage, and have since sought and secured, most agreeably to themselves, the acquaintance of the genuine offspring of the mind of *Hahnemann*.

The whole number of deaths in Paris from Cholera in 1832, was 12,000. There have already been 11,000 deaths during the current year from that disease. No marvel this, for the Parisian practitioners of medicine are generally inferior to others, and they treat Cholera with opiates: had it not have been for homœopathy, allopaths in this country, who are ever ready to imitate anything from the French school, would have treated the Cholera in the same mode, as many now do, although they lose one-half of their cases. The people of this country will be greatly indebted to homœopathy during the present epidemic, for the preservation of thousands of lives. Allopaths do not, nor dare not, attempt to defend their worst of *quackery*, in the treatment of the *Cholera*.

NOTICE:

The undersigned proposes to deliver a regular course of daily lectures on the practice of medicine, to commence on the 5th day of November next, and to end on the 1st of March following.

Tickets for the course, \$15.

A more extended notice of these lectures will appear in the next number of this Journal, and also in a circular.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

New York, June 26th, 1849.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

Subscriptions for this Journal will be received as heretofore, by Otis Clapp, Boston, Mass., and by J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 4.

New York, August, 1849.

NO. 4.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1849.

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## FATAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRESENT MODES OF PRACTICE.

Continued from page 33.

Some further remarkable circumstances connected with the retention of drugs in the human system, are mentioned by Mr. Beamish, in a narrative of a visit to Grafenberg. "The injury inflicted on the human constitution," says that gentleman "by the administration of drugs is still scarcely comprehended. A remarkable case, which may throw some light on the subject, was stated to me by eye-witnesses:—a gentleman nearly sixty years old, who had, twelve years before, severely sprained his knee-joint, for which two ointments had been rubbed in, the one blue, the other pink, placed himself under the water-cure. The functions of the knee were pretty well restored. After five months' water treatment the pain in his limb returned with considerable violence; to alleviate his suffer-

ings, umschlag, or covered wet bandages were applied, when, behold! they quickly became impregnated, first with the blue, then with the pink deposit, after which the pain left him. Pink deposits I have seen on the linen of more than one individual. I possess seven samples of linen which had been applied to crisis, impregnated with deposits of black, black and yellow, light yellow, and bright sulphur yellow. The black was preceded by a blue which was, unfortunately, thrown away. The blue and black are declared by Pressnitz to proceed from mercury; the yellow from sulphur. The gentleman from whom I obtained them assured me that the mercury had been taken about twenty-eight years before, and the sulphur at two different periods of ten and twenty years respectively; and he added, 'Since I took the mercury, I have never enjoyed health.'

With regard also to the retention of medicinal agents in the alimentary canal, some curious facts are upon record. It is remarked by Dr. Elliotson, "When a person has taken a great quantity of chalk-mixture, and even magnesia, concretions have sometimes been formed. In the Museum at St. Thomas's Hospital, there is a preparation where the intestines of a child are completely blocked up with magnesia. It has the appearance of hard mortar, regularly cemented. The same effect will sometimes take place with the sesquioxide of iron. Dr. Barlow of Bath mentions a case where pills of sulphate of iron were discharged nine months after they had been taken."

What has now been stated will render it evident, that from a resort to medical aid one of the three following circumstances will in a majority of cases take place; namely, a complete or partial cure, with the draw-back of some after-suffering from the remedies employed;—a failure of the remedies, so as to

leave the disease untouched, with the addition, at the same time, of evil consequences from the natural action of those remedies;—or, finally, such a disturbance of the system and weakening of the vital power as shall rapidly accelerate a fatal termination. Under the most favourable conditions, therefore, we have no promise of deriving a simple and unquestionable benefit. In the best case we can look but for an exchange of ills, however much in some instances that exchange may be in our favour; while under the two last suppositions the prospect is one of little else than unmitigated injury.

At the same time it is to be feared an inquiry as to which of these results may most frequently be looked for, will not meet with any consolatory reply. On this point an examination of the contradictory statements quoted in the preceding chapter will throw some light; and the acknowledged “incurability” of a large number of diseases (among which are many of the most common), consumption—indigestion—hydrocephalus—cancer—hydrophobia—dropsy, &c., &c., furnishes sad experience in the same direction.

The very rules, however, on which the present practice is professedly based, would in themselves give sufficient testimony that uncertainty must at all times be its inherent characteristic.

When a physician observes for the first time the symptoms of his patient, his direct object is to form a clear idea of the organ or organs implicated in the disease, and next, to ascertain if the disease be of a passive or of an inflammatory kind. This accomplished, he has, in a majority of instances, all that he requires as a groundwork for action. If inflammation be present, then a lowering treatment is indicated; and, in the opposite case, tonics and stimulants, together, in all cases, with a *trial* of such medicines as have been found to possess a power of action over the organs supposed to be affected.

Now if in each case, the precise organ or organs affected could be confidently ascertained—if the nature of the affection, whether inflammatory or otherwise, could with like confidence be arrived at,—and if, after proceeding thus far, an equal certainty could be felt, that the medicines administered would produce the action for which they are given, there would be reason to hope for a satisfactory result. But, unfortunately, there is no sure method of attaining any one of these ob-

jects; and as correctness, not merely in one but in all three of them together, is necessary to a cure, an unusual combination of intelligence is required before a favourable treatment can be looked for.

Of the various symptoms of disease there are a vast number common to affections of totally different organs; and there are others, as in the instance of diabetes, a disease which some declare to be situated in the kidneys, and others in the stomach, of which pathological research has not yet fixed the primary seat; so that, although from long practice and acute perceptive powers, some practitioners may at times be enabled to form a singularly accurate estimate of the real situation of the mischief, such accuracy is by no means common; a fact, which the experience of those who, while suffering under long-standing maladies, have consulted many different physicians will generally testify. With regard to the presence or absence of inflammation, equal uncertainty has been found to prevail. The light in such an inquiry is often derived chiefly from pathological experience, the result of observations made at post mortem examinations of organs in various stages of disease, such observations forming in each case the basis of a *theory* of the causes of the destruction which had been going on, and of the mode in which, when symptoms are again presented such as those which had been manifested by the deceased persons, its progress should be resisted.

But although the facts which have been accumulated in this direction by the unwearied research of medical philosophers are surprisingly numerous, they have added little to the certainty of medicine, since the theories based upon them have in almost every case embraced the most opposite views, and have consequently been the cause of incessant warfare, characterized by the bitterness peculiar to disputes in which neither party feel it possible to demonstrate their position. The contests between physicians, whether certain diseases are inflammatory diseases or otherwise, have been endless (the mode of treatment indicated in the one case being diametrically contrary to that indicated in the other; so that at all events, the patients of one of the contending parties must suffer not only from the absence of proper treatment, but from the infliction of its reverse), and every new observation in pathology seems only to be the signal for new contentions equally furious and



resultless. Even, however, where practitioners are generally agreed upon the nature of the indication, perplexities appear to be in no way diminished, and evidence is constantly presented that this unanimity is no safe-guard against error. So all-pervading, in fact, are the doubts besetting this point, that practitioners evidently do not feel it expedient to bind themselves upon all occasions to act in conformity with rule. "In consequence of partial success," says Dr. Craigie, "the use of mercury has been indiscriminately transferred to every form of dysentery; but if we reason from the pathological process in which the disease consists in our choice of remedial measures, *mercury will be the last* to which we should have recourse."

Upon the question whether (supposing the seat of the disease to be actually ascertained, together with a knowledge of existing indications) the practitioner possesses the power of selecting medicines that shall accomplish the indications aimed at, difficulties are presented still greater than those which have just been considered. So little is known of the action of medicines, that they very frequently produce a directly contrary result to that which is expected; and medical books will be found to contain expressions of surprise at the unlooked-for phenomena constantly arising.

Thus it will be seen, that in medical treatment according to the recognized rules, there are three preliminaries necessary to insure success; that the accomplishment of one of these is of no advantage without the accomplishment of the others, and that they each alike depend upon the practitioner being fortunate enough to form a correct theory in the absence of positive data. There must, first, be a correct theory as to the organ diseased;—then a correct theory regarding the mode of progress of that disease;—and, finally, a correct theory regarding the action to be produced by the medicine administered: and upon the chance of his achieving all these is to depend the benefit or injury he may cause.—Upon the probability of correctness in a combination of theories, the practitioner, experienced or inexperienced, as the case may be, (and the history of science as regards theoretical views, whether from the learned or unlearned, points to little else than error) is to administer agents, some of which, in the proportion of less than a grain have been known to destroy life,—and these, not to the healthy, not to those whose vital energies may quickly

repair any accidental mischief, but to those whose powers are enfeebled, whose life may depend on the slightest casualty, and whom it is considered so necessary to guard from every disturbing cause, that we control in their presence even our slightest words, lest one breath of despondency or impatience on our part, or the mere excitement of some trivial news, should extinguish the feeble flame we are struggling to preserve. When we recognize these things, and read afterwards that "upon one occasion seven persons were destroyed in an hospital in Paris by a particular medicine (hydrocyanic acid) prescribed according to the usual rules," instead of being surprised at such a statement, we feel convinced, that if the daily aggregate of fatal results from medical treatment could be known, an incident of this kind would form comparatively an unimportant item.

And it must be remembered that it is not to the dangers of medicines alone that patients under these circumstances are subjected, but oftentimes to the shocks of torturing applications—that it is by the debilitated invalid, and not by the healthy man, that scarifications, blisters, moxas, setons, and incisions must be borne, upon the chance of the theoretical views of the practitioner proving correct or otherwise. "A lady, the wife of a physician," says Sir George Lefevre in his *Apology for the Nerves*, "lost all power of motion in consequence of a concussion of the spine; blisters, setons, frictions with tartarized antimony; and finally, the excruciating tortures of seven moxas burnt upon the sacrum at different periods, were all resorted to without effect." This lady left off medical treatment and resolved on trying magnetism. A cure was immediately effected, which the *Medico-Chirurgical Review* is disposed to attribute entirely to her escape from her professional attendants.

(To be Continued.)

## THE REPETITION OF THE MEDICINAL DOSES.

BY DR. GRÆSSELICH.

Hahnemann thus expressed himself respecting the repetition of the medicinal doses in his "healing art of experience." "It is to be regulated according to the duration of effect of each remedy." The improvement consequent upon the positive—homœopathic effect of a remedy, he says, is perceptible even after the duration of the effect of the



medicine; a repetition of the dose would then remove the remaining symptoms; if a second dose should be administered, even several hours after the end of the duration of effect, the improvement would not be interrupted; the healing object can be frustrated by too early a repetition, because if a new dose is added before the termination of the duration of the effect, the effect can by this addition be excessively increased, and consequently become injurious. He says further, if the disease has been ameliorated in nearly its whole extent, then it is *certain*, almost without an exception, that the curative beneficial remedy has been the best adapted remedy; if, for instance, in chronic disease, though no perceptible improvement appeared, yet no new symptom of consequence set in, then it is but *probable*, that the given remedy was the best adapted one. In both these cases, we can continue, if necessary, with a second, third, etc., doses, always observing the result. In relation to the *duration* of the effect of the remedies, Hahnemann had made several remarks, many years previous, in his "experiment regarding a new principle;" the "direct" effect of *Hyoscyamus* scarcely continues twelve hours; that of *Stramonium* in large doses about twenty-four, in small doses only three hours; and so of *Tobacco*, etc.

In the first edition of the Organon, (page 164, ff.) Hahnemann gave the simple rule, not to repeat the dose as long as an improvement was visible, even if it was but small, every new dose disturbing the "progress of improvement." This rule was the more important, as we have yet no knowledge, from scarcely any remedy, of the more definite limits of the duration of effect. The effect of some terminates in twenty-four hours, (this was, however, very rare, and the shortest duration of effect of any remedy with which he was acquainted;) some require days, and even weeks, for the completion of their effect; the improvement remained perceptible also after the completed duration of effect of the remedy; the repetition of a remedy having been beneficial, only makes the evil worse, if the improvement in all points does not begin to stand still, for by it a medicinal disease is added to the natural one; the ameliorated sickness shows a changed group of symptoms; the previous remedy in a new dose is therefore not adapted.

In general, Hahnemann recommends the administration of the same remedy (where the repetition is indicated) in increasingly smaller doses, so that the patient never receives the same dose.

According to Hahnemann, the time for the repetition of the remedy is when some slight traces of one or the other original symptoms of the former disease are observed to re-appear. If, however, the patient require a like large, or even larger dose of the homœopathic remedy, which always has benefitted him, to prevent a relapse, this was a sure sign of the continuance of the producing cause of the disease, of an impediment in the regimen of

living, or of certain influences surrounding the patient.

The main point in the administration of medicine is, not to give a new dose until after the completed duration of effect of the previous dose.

Hahnemann declares this to be the more important, as we cannot determine with certainty the *exact* limits of the effect of any remedy in large doses, not even in the healthy body, still less in small doses in the different diseases, and in the so widely differing individualities of patients. A dose completes its effect in the most acute diseases within a few hours. The same remedy, in the same dose, however, requires, in chronic diseases, several weeks for the completion of its effect.

Hahnemann repeats in general what was said above, and recognizes in the moment of the cessation of improvement, the extreme point of the duration of effect of the dose.

The above-mentioned rules are to be observed, with the following additions. A very minute dose of the medicine indicated completes its effect occasionally in forty, fifty, or one hundred days. This is, however, of rare occurrence. It is important to abridge the cure, if possible, to half, quarter, or even to a shorter period; and this can, under the observance of three conditions, be accomplished, viz.: 1. A proper selection of the remedy. 2. The most minute *dose* of the remedy, whereby the vital power is excited in the least degree, and consequently properly changed. 3. A *repetition at proper intervals*. In this manner, the dose may be repeated at intervals of seven, eight, ten, twelve, or fourteen days, or even oftener, with incredible success frequently; and, in the most acute diseases, even every five minutes.

Hahnemann refers hereby to his experience, and amends his former statement, adding, that it was not sufficient merely to await the termination of the effect of the remedy, except in some slight cases, in small children, and in very delicate irritable adults.

The *increase* of a medicinal dose once given was not recommended by Hahnemann, but rather its *repetition*; he gave, for instance in chronic diseases, *Sulphur*, 1-30, at intervals of seven days, and longer, but rarely at shorter intervals.

Hahnemann recommended, as early as in 1832, the repetition as a *great improvement*.

The rule given five years previous to this, to await, in chronic affections, "the termination of effect" of each dose of an antipsoric remedy, thirty, forty, fifty, etc., days, is, by this admission of a necessary repetition, abolished: "If we do not allow the antipsoric remedies, if ever as well adapted, their full length of time—that is, until they cease to produce any further effect—then was no cure possible." To fill up the time, Hahnemann gave powders of pure *Sugar of Milk*, passing in the homœopathic practice under the name of "blind powders."

The above given rule, to repeat the same remedy in the same dose after seven, nine, or



more days, was retracted again some time after by *Hahnemann*.

It does not agree very well with "our principle of life, for a patient to take, even twice in succession, the same unchanged dose of a remedy, much less several times in succession; the good effected by the first dose would be counteracted by repetition, and new symptoms would appear. From this, according to *Hahnemann*, proceed the many contradictions of the homœopathist in relation to the repetition of the doses. In order to avoid those embarrassments, *Hahnemann* comes back again, by a round about way, and, to all appearance, without having an idea that he said the same thing in the first edition of the *Organon*, to his former proposition, apparently forgotten by himself and his disciples, viz; that the succeeding doses should always be smaller, or, as he now styles it, *in a different degree of dynamisation*.

The repetition of one and the same remedy is *indispensable*; it can be given in a different degree of dynamisation, an incredible number of times in succession. *Hahnemann's* theory of potentisation occupies here, of course, the foreground; "the degree of dynamisation" was nearly changed, by shaking the phial strongly five or six times before each administration.

We see also, that *Hahnemann* did not acknowledge the principle of repetition of the medicinal dose during his whole life; that he once was against every repetition until he had to admit, that the *non-repetition* was the exception, and only successful in small children and sensitive patients.

It is almost impossible, to relate here, all that has been said in relation to this subject: I must therefore confine myself to a short sketch. In general, it may be said regarding the repetition, that those physicians approved of this technicism, who were in favor of a scale of degrees in the magnitude of the dose. Many years ago, however, a singular event occurred. *Hahnemann's* retraction of the *non-repetition* was contested by one of his most zealous disciples. It should by all means remain as established that the repetition does not agree with the vital principle. It was also evident, that there are men amongst the Homœopathists, who were more *Hahnemannian* than *Hahnemann* himself.

*Aegidi* expressed himself in favor of repetition, at a time, when it was not so much practised.—First of all, he lays down, in relation to chronic diseases, the following propositions: After the lapse of eight days, when the proper remedy has been given, the disease either does or does not change. In the first place it was *improvement* or deterioration, or alteration of the complex of the symptoms. At one time when improvement had taken place we were to wait and watch. If the improvement stood still, the same remedy was naturally indicated, and it was to be given as often as it proved efficient. This would be generally from 7-7, occasionally from 4-4 days, or even every other day. In case of deterioration, we were either to wait, or give the antidote, which mostly consisted in the

repetition of the dose; melioration would follow upon it. If it stands still, either to repeat several times the remedy, yet in progressively smaller doses and higher potencies, or to give another remedy. *M. Hahnemann* deviates respecting the administration of smaller doses; he advises to give, should the 30th dilution have been taken, the 24th. If on administering the adopted remedy, no improvement of an evil takes place, then to give the proper remedy more or less frequently, according to the degree of susceptibility of the patient, until either a homœopathic aggravation—with consequent melioration—or medicinal symptoms set in—also with consequent melioration—or an indication for other remedies appears.

Subsequent to this *Aegidi* recommended to give not only stronger doses, but even to repeat the remedies more frequently, for by continued attacks, a reaction would be brought about sufficiently powerful to effect a cure—a result seldom produced by a single dose.

Still later *Aegidi* pronounced the repetition in some cases injudicious, in others, it was the only way by which the cure could be accomplished; the individual case in question, however, was to decide. By a circumspect delay much might be gained, which would be lost by hurried movements. *Trinks* is also of like opinion, as he warns against a too hasty repetition.

*P. Wolf* had already in the *Archiv*. Vol. 9 No. 1., intimated that he was in favor of repetition under appropriate circumstances; he made, however, nearly the same allowances as did *Aegidi*, and endeavored to ascertain definite rules. *Wolf* asserts that numerous experiments prove that the precept of the school, not to repeat the remedy, even if the circumstances do require it, must be abandoned; he adds, furthermore, that his long experience is decidedly against a too hasty repetition.

The efficiency of the mineral waters, the results of the mercurial ointment cure in old syphilitic cases, which in spite of the primary effects of mercury (retrograde), the success of the use of simple juices, and infusions of plants, the cures by the continued use of the homœopathic remedy in large allopathic doses—*nux vom.* in paralysis—all are intimations to *Wolf* of the propriety of the repetition of the dose; he admits, however, that there are no definite rules, since we have no knowledge of the remedies suitable for repetition, the forms of diseases with their crises; at what intervals, and at what stage in individual cases the dose is to be repeated.

He distinguishes three principal categories; 1. Repetition in the smallest doses, in very quick or slower succession, until operation is to be expected, or has shown itself in primary effects. 2. Repetition in continual succession and at proportionally shorter intervals, until a quite perceptible improvement with evident or unperceivable operation of the individual doses. 3. Repetition in longer intervals, after a dose of the specific remedy had effected an improvement, which however did not



progress. Wolf named a considerable number of remedies, where he found repetition beneficial.

To be Continued.

### SUGGESTIONS TO PROMOTE THOROUGH INSTRUCTION IN HOMŒOPATHIA.

The demand for physicians of the homœopathic school, is evidence of the diminishing confidence of the people in allopathy. We have been inclined to publish the letters we have received, urging us to recommend competent practitioners of homœopathy to different places; but not having been authorised to do so, and some of them express rather severe censures on allopathic physicians we have hitherto declined a compliance with our inclination in this respect. We are not unfrequently perplexed, by applications of junior members of the profession, who request of us written recommendations of their competency for homœopathic practice. Our embarrassment arises from the clearest evidence of incompetency—not from a want of talents, or morality, or gentility, or education; but from the fact, that they have but a limited knowledge of our system of medicine; they are full to the brim of allopathic learning; but they have never reached the standing of a *sophomore*, in homœopathy. Of late we have not hesitated to say to such, although at the risk of giving offence: “You have not yet learnt, that you know nothing of a true healing art.” Our young men should know, that to enter upon homœopathic practice, immediately after graduation from an allopathic college, is not the best method for their own interests or the interest of medical science and art.

A young physician should enter the office of some acknowledged pure homœopathic practitioner, and remain at least for one year, and industriously study and practice the system of Hahnemann, and secure the certificate of his preceptor, of his qualification for the practice. In the present state of things, this would be of more value than the Diploma of an allopathic college. Few physicians would so far compromise their integrity, as to certify to the medical qualifications of any one, in the absence of real merit; collectively this may be done, as is well understood by the community.

The sole duty of the physician is to cure the sick; and as a general rule, this cannot be so well accomplished, as by means, for a time, of the instruction of those of experience in that duty. It is now admitted on all hands, that what is termed clinical instruction, is essential to constitute a physician; and this cannot be secured so well, as in the office of an acknowledged successful homœopathic practitioner.

The period is approaching when the present mode of medical instruction will receive a critical examination; and a reform in this matter is already called for by both schools of medicine. Homœopathists have it in their power, to effect all needed changes in the method of teaching medicine and surgery, and they should at once avail themselves of the opportune moment. If our school understood itself as it should, there would be no exciting abhorrence at the idea of exclusiveness. Homœopathy has fixed principles, which cannot be made to bend to suit any one; therefore in its nature it cannot amalgamate with allopathy; all attempts at such an object, may in some degree improve the latter, but will certainly defile the former. We have heretofore advocated, and shall continue to do so, that the two schools should remain, as they really are, antagonistic. To teach the system of Hahnemann after the manner of the colleges, cannot be successful. Some other mode must be adopted. Under existing circumstances private teaching appears the most appropriate. We merely throw out these suggestions, and at a future time we may elaborate them. Public opinion to our mind is of importance in the healing art; however allopaths may affect to disprize it; but homœopaths do not lower their dignity by a due respect for it. Public opinion is the judgment of the many, which is slow in its formation, but in the end is generally correct. Public opinion is gradually but certainly forming against allopathy and all that pertains to it: and in proportion as it sets in that direction, it favors homœopathy. Therefore the public is nearly ready to favor any change founded in wisdom, which shall look towards the production of accomplished physicians. To secure this laudable object, is a most important duty of homœopathic physicians. Therefore provision must be made to instruct young men in medicine in a way that shall command the confidence of the community.



This can never be secured by any degree of annexation with allopathic colleges. We are aware that this opinion differs from some of our colleagues, but if it does, it is no reason why we should withhold our honest sentiments on so important a subject. This matter has not been much discussed, but it soon will be, and the sooner the better, for the interests of homœopathy.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

### HOMŒOPATHIA.

It is surprising that a subject of such importance as that of medical treatment, should receive so little attention; when so much happiness depends upon the enjoyment of health—that we should not be willing to devote a little time to investigate the different modes of practice, and compare their results.

We often hear the remark that "Homœopathia is a humbug:" not because the asserter understands its principles in the least; but merely because he does not believe in the efficacy of such minute doses; and he will at the same time affirm, that the medicines are very powerful: very consistent certainly! It is very difficult to realize why such infinitesimal doses possess such power; but we know there are many substances, a small quantity of which, externally applied, will produce death: and there are those also that are so minute as to be quite inappreciable to the senses, and which will yet, very powerfully, affect the human frame. It is a very rational inference to draw, that medicine homœopathically prepared, may receive some new properties, which may render it more potent; also a diseased organ is affected by a much smaller quantity of medicine than a healthy one. However it is not a mere theory, but a science governed by laws, ascertained and proved by experiments.

It would be well for people generally, to possess a sufficient knowledge of homœopathia, to be able to distinguish between true homœopaths and mongrels who have done much injury to the cause of homœopathia. They possess but a limited knowledge of any system, and when one fails are obliged to resort to the other. These are often considered genuine homœopathic practitioners; because their misled patients know no better themselves. They will tell you that "Dr, —— never gives a cathartic except in certain

cases;" for example to clear the system of allopathia, so that homœopathic remedies will have the desired effect. You will often hear the patients themselves say, they would much rather have a physician who understands both modes of practice, so that if one fails, they can resort to the other: and also, that "they would not dare to trust to homœopathia in any extreme case." It is not plain to be seen how any intelligent physician can conscientiously adopt both methods of practice, as the systems are so entirely dissimilar. If homœopathia is not adequate to cure all curable diseases, let us have allopathia in its purity.

It is often asserted that homœopathia owes much of her success to a strict attention to the laws of regimen. This certainly should occupy a conspicuous place in any system of cure. Homœopathic practitioners proscribe what is unwholesome, at all times, and substances that have a medicinal effect. What allopathic physician, would undertake to cure a case of Dyspepsia, if his patient persisted in an unwholesome course of diet?

Faith and imagination, are often said to be powerful auxiliaries; but this could only be truly said of adults: whereas homœopathia has proved quite as efficient, when applied to children whose "faith and imagination" were not at all developed, and has gained some of her most brilliant triumphs; in cases where the patient was utterly faithless; having exhausted the arts of all other schools in vain; and called on this new science with a desperate hope, "that "it might do good, and could do no harm." One would suppose that its superiority over allopathia in the administration of the medicines, particularly when applied to children, would be a sufficient recommendation to induce one to examine the subject. It is certainly much easier, and more humane, to place a little powder on the tongue of a child; than to force some nauseous drug down the little sufferers throat; and to blister and bleed children, is too barbarous. Habit though is second nature, and it is difficult to renounce old prejudices. It will take a long time for people who have been accustomed to the use of cathartics, emetics, &c.; to become satisfied with the mildness of homœopathia. They want medicine that "*will operate*" and cannot believe that inflammation can be subdued without depleting the system. When the healthy action of the system is disturbed by any cause, its natural tendency is to return

to its normal condition; but this it may not be able to effect; or if able, it may be through a tedious and painful process. Homœopathia watches these efforts, as indicated by the symptoms; and in accordance with her great and beneficent ruling principle; kindly lends her aid to nature; rendering that desired result, certain, easy and quickly attained, which otherwise might never have been reached. This is more rational, than to seek to cure, by exciting some violent action either in the diseased organ or in some neighboring part.

Homœopathia has done much service to allopathia, in reducing the quantity of medicine administered, and modifying the system in many respects. There is one thing certain that no real homœopath, has ever retrograded so far as to resume allopathia.

The world is advancing in knowledge, and the people are daily imbibing the truths of homœopathia; and we trust the time is not far distant, when the great law "*Similia similibus curantur*" will be universally recognised, as the only sufficient guide, in all efforts to heal the sick.

E. S. P.

New York City, July 24th, 1849.

#### THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHOOL SHOULD NOT AMALGAMATE WITH THE ALLOPATHIC.

We have received a printed circular addressed "To the Homœopathic Physicians of the U. S.;" signed by five physicians, and dated Chardon, O., July 1st, 1849.

It appears that twenty-three homœopathic physicians of Northern Ohio, assembled in convention at Cleveland, June 26th, 1849, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of accepting and establishing a professorship of the principles and practice of homœopathy in the Eclectic Medical College in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio. Storm Rosa, M. D., was recommended to the authorities of the Eclectic Medical Institute, for said professorship.

The Circular is intended, we should judge, to meet objections which were anticipated to the proposed arrangement; but in our humble opinion it will fail of its object; our colleagues, with all due respect we utter it, do not seem to be aware of the sort of company they propose to embrace in their arms of liberality. With all frankness, and the kindest

feelings, we do not hesitate to declare, that we cannot co-operate with our friends in that matter. We happen to know the paternity of that Institute; and we have never had much respect for it. There may be, as the circular states, among the professors, "men of sound hearts, clear heads, and minds fearless in the investigation of truth, and second to no faculty in the country in point of talent, capability or untiring industry," all of which, in our mind amounts to but little, if they, as we have reason to believe, possess the views and feelings of their leader. More than thirty years ago, we became acquainted with a man in this city, who represented himself a Doctor, although uneducated in the ordinary way. His sole pretensions at that time were, to cure cancers and other sores with ointments, and to find fault with educated physicians. A few years afterwards, this man, it was said, procured a medical license, from a county society of this state, and set himself up for a reformer in medicine; and has persevered in his object with uncommon zeal; and certainly he has made some noise in the world. He being always religiously inclined, yet could never find any sect suited to his views and feelings on that subject, but finally adopted the motto, and applied it to himself, that "a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country;" and became a remarkable example of this, both in religion and in medicine. 1st. He set his hand against every man in religion, and published a paper to make known his views, but failed to make converts, and his paper ceased to exist. 2nd. He undertook a reform in medicine, and published a very large and confused work, for that purpose, which kings and princes have honored, but nobody else that we know of. This man, utterly incompetent for the work he undertook, however sincere he may have been, has managed to connect with him in some way, a few men of more ability than himself, and while they are laboring with "untiring industry" as the circular says, he claims the whole credit of driving an entering wedge into the ranks of the medical profession and disturbing its harmony. And now when he sees the popularity of homœopathia, the plan is projected to connect his interests in some way with it, so as ultimately, to claim to be the ruling spirit in the reform of the healing art in America, which the circular before us, indirectly helps him to do. The gentlemen, whose names are appended to the



circular under notice, err greatly, when they ascribe to this man any agency whatever in liberalizing "public sentiment."

We have not the time, nor the inclination to say all we could, on this subject. We regret to be compelled to differ from any of our brethren, but when we honestly believe the interests of homœopathia, are to be compromised by impolitic associations, we shall not hesitate to express our dissent in a suitable spirit and manner. The Circular itself is not in good taste, exceedingly weak in its arguments, very ordinary in its composition, and exhibits more of the spirit of a party, than that calm dignity which usually arises from a consciousness of the possession of the truth.

Our colleagues in Northern Ohio, have a commendable zeal, which should tell to the promotion of the spread of homœopathia, but we fear, if they should go on, and connect themselves with the Eclectic Institute, they are destined to be disappointed, and our beautiful system retarded in its progress. We have not the slightest confidence, in the friendly feeling of an "eclectic" for homœopathia; although there may be the kindest feelings, and the most gentlemanly deportment towards persons. Eclecticism is allopathy, and nothing else. Now, does any well informed mind believe it possible for allopaths to willingly aid in the promulgation of homœopathia? All experience answers in the negative. That class of eclectics embraced in the Cincinnati institute, is a party of the allopathic school, who by their violent and denounceatory measures have been separated from the main body, and it is now seeking to draw homœopathia into its muddy waters, and thereby defile her beautiful garments so that the public mind will not perceive her fair proportions.

The number of homœopaths in this country is as a hundred to one of that class of eclectics. In this city, the Father of them, has been laboring for more than twenty-five years, and so far as we know, he has made but one convert, and he ranks, an advertising physician.

We do not deny the right of our friends in Northern Ohio, to take the step they have in the matter under notice; but they should not undertake to unite a thousand or more homœopathic practitioners in a sort of marriage contract to such a family without their consent.

Our sentiment is, let homœopaths, resemble their system, not fear boldly to declare to the world that they are exclusive; and cannot from the nature of their faith be anything else. Let us work with our own means, and in our own peculiar way. Let as many come to us as may, and let us welcome them with open arms; but let us keep on our own ground, and cultivate it, in imitation of no existing system. If a college is needed, let us secure one, but not throw ourselves headlong into any existing institution. The medical colleges of the present day, are not worthy of the name; they are generally mere private establishments. The allopathic school itself is rapidly approaching an acknowledgment of this fact. So far as we have been able to form an opinion, the Eclectic Medical Institute, is really the worst of all; and shall an esteemed homœopathist allow himself to be flattered by the offer of a professorship? We hope not.

#### BOARD OF HEALTH.

The custom of reporting the number of cases of Cholera, by the Board of Health, seems to us, to be not only useless, but of evil tendency.

The daily reports of cases, when compared with the City Inspector's, show for the week ending July 21st, as many deaths as cases. Everybody knows this is not true; yet every one is daily estimating the proportion of deaths, making the reports of the Board of Health the standard of the calculation. The result is truly alarming, and our citizens are thus kept in a state of excitement, inconsistent with health.

To procure the exact number of Cholera cases is exceedingly difficult, owing in some measure to the unreasonable diversity of views of physicians in regard to what symptoms characterize that disease. Until lately a class of symptoms were designated, *premonitory*; and all such cases, although now admitted to be genuine cholera in its first stage, have been passed by as unworthy the notice of the Board of Health. The second stage of the disease, under appropriate treatment, yields readily in most instances, rendering it, in the judgment of many physicians, unnecessary to disturb the public mind with them.

The last or dying stage of cholera, are mostly the only cases reported, hence the very

great mortality that appears in the reports of the Board of Health. There are other causes which need not be enumerated, that places it beyond the power of the public authorities to secure anything like accurate reports of the number of cases. The unwise proceedings of our Board of Health in this matter, has caused immense injury to the business of this city, and has alarmed the entire population, so that thousands resort to pernicious preventive means, which tend to the development of the disease.

The Cholera prevails throughout our country as did the Influenza a few years ago; and it is no more contagious or infectious, than was that malady; and if treated by those immutable principles which a large proportion of the profession, and many thousands of intelligent laymen are now familiar with; the mortality need not alarm entire communities as it now does.

The formal notice taken of cholera, by the public authorities, the silly proclamations of medical councils, often erroneous and indefinite, are well adapted to induce mental excitement, and thereby increase the cases of the disease and the bills of mortality.

The people of this city, under the sanction of authority have been graciously advised "to be careful," of what they eat; and of themselves in their deportment generally. Yet we are not advised, of what this carefulness which the "Medical Council" so gravely and diplomatically puts forth, consists in. True, they tell the people to keep calm, but they cannot with the daily reports of the Board of Health before them. Must not touch vegetables and fruits; although thousands eat them daily, and experience no inconvenience from their use, as ordinary articles of diet. Must not eat solid food; yet there is no evidence that this is injurious to those who have appetite for it. Avoid cold bathing; but thousands indulge in it daily, and no evil comes of it.

It is not unreasonable that a sudden change in diet aids very much an attack of cholera. We may, perhaps, intrude our own experience, upon our readers, on this subject. We have not changed our mode of living; but followed the promptings of our appetite, and such has been the happy effect, that we are not likely to be influenced by the absurd theories in cholera dietetics, which have emanated from the allopathic and homœopathic schools; for the latter in this matter, has

leaned towards the nonsense of the former.

The safest course, with due respect for the opinion of our colleagues, is to leave each person to manage the needed supply of his stomach in his own way; and as eating is an operation which most of the people of this city, have had experience in; we think their practical knowledge, will be safer for them to follow, than the baseless theories of the faculty.

It seems to us most appropriate, and the best for us all, that deaths only should be reported, and through the usual channel—the City Inspector. But if the Board of Health must meddle with this department of our municipal arrangement, let them report only the number of deaths.

It may be objected to the above views, that unless the number of cases is ascertained, statistical accounts could not be made out; so as to show the relative number of deaths; and the result of the different modes of treatment of the Cholera. We may surprise some of our brethren, after the almost universal laudation bestowed on medical statistics, by the assertion, that these do not amount to much, either in the estimation of the profession or of the people. We have positive proof that they have not the slightest influence on our Board of Health, and its "Medical Council" for they have had the facts before them in statistical tables, that uniformly the homœopathic treatment loses less than nine in a hundred; and the allopathic treatment loses more than fifty in a hundred; yet the Board does not favor the former; but gives its sanction to the latter, although the glaring and alarming fact stares it in the face from every newspaper, that allopathy fails in most of her cases, in the present epidemic.

We do not blame the Board of Health, for their want of faith in the statistics of the homœopathic treatment of the Cholera; we cannot complain if, under the advice of their "medical council", they threw them aside altogether, which we presume they did. It is but just to the members of the "Council" for us to say, that none know better than they do, the reliance to be placed on statistics; as well as on detailed reports of the treatment of individual cases: their competency in this branch of medicine we do not doubt. The friends of homœopathy and her lay opponents do complain, and on just, and reasonable ground; that as a large number of regularly



educated physicians, of unimpeachable integrity, and well known in the community, declare, after years of daily experience in all diseases, that the homœopathic treatment of Cholera, is safer than any other known, that the Board of Health should reject such testimony, and not afford an opportunity in a Cholera Hospital to place beyond a doubt the pretensions of homœopathia in this regard; or expose thereby its inadequacy for such a work as curing the Cholera.

We leave this matter in the hands of the people, who will after awhile, understand how their life and health has been most shamefully disregarded by their servants—the Board of Health.

—  
*Mayville, Nov. 1848.*

DR. S. R. KIRBY:—

Dear Sir:—A homœopathic physician enjoys peculiar advantages over those of the old school, in being ever able to give a reason for his doctrine and practice. Wherefore we propose on the present occasion to offer a reason or two for the principle of attenuated doses.

The people have a sort of vague idea of disease, and seem to consider it a kind of physical agent, and that it requires material means to remove it. And this is no wonder, since their teachers from time immemorial have been accustomed to express themselves in such a vague and uncouth manner. How often do we hear them talking about breaking up a cold, breaking up a fever, cleansing the stomach, removing morbid matter, impurities, &c. As if disease might be broken to pieces as a rock is broken, or expelled by physical force, as a military force would be expelled. Such ideas have nothing rational about them, nor even the shadow of science or truth. Disease is invisible, intangible, and so far as we know anything about it, possesses none of the qualities which belong to substance.

What then is disease? we answer, a subversive force, having the power to disturb the vital forces, and bring about morbid action. With a noiseless step it approaches, enters our dwellings without lifting a latch or drawing a bolt, takes possession of his victim, and no one heeds its presence, until it has arranged and fitted up its destructive elements; then nature hangs out her tokens of distress and

cries for relief. Such an element of disorganization as this cannot be broken up, or expelled by physical or material means. The means employed must be similar, or like in its nature, and adequate to the end. Can any one imagine what advantage we could gain by instituting physical force to compete successfully with a force which is essentially spiritual. We do not say disease is a spirit intelligent and capable of deliberation; but we have said, it was a *subversive force*, that might be dissipated by the proper means.

Now, by reference to my former communication, it appears that drugs cure disease, only by virtue of their power to create diseases, and that too in accordance with a great and fundamental law there exhibited. If then we administer the drug whose pathogenesis or disease creating power is as near as may be similar or like to the disease, we shall see the disease yield and give way according to one or the other of two principles, viz:

1. We say, no two diseases similar and like each other can exist in the same subject at the same time; consequently, if we can succeed by the use of a drug in creating a new and similar disease, the natural must let go and become a medicinal one; but a drug disease may be just as pernicious and just as permanent as any other; hence we see the necessity of bringing the medicinal substance into a condition typical or analogous to the subversive force, or as Hahnemann expresses it, a semi-vital or spiritual condition, so that the medicinal disease shall be as near as possible similar to the natural one, and the power which the organism naturally possesses of withstanding the encroachments of the subversive force, shall not be embarrassed. Then is the sufferer promptly and certainly relieved.

2. We say the symptoms which appear in any particular case of disease are merely the efforts of nature to throw off the subversive force and establish her normal condition; hence, if we administer the drug, which is capable of originating a similar set of symptoms, we add strength to the *vis natura*, and thus assist her to resume her accustomed vigor. But here again arises the same necessity as before, of having the medication in the just mentioned proper condition; otherwise an alarming aggravation of the symptoms may take place, and the disease rendered more permanent and disastrous instead of being

cured, while other parts and formations of the organism are made to suffer.

Now then it being admitted that the disease is not properly speaking a material assailant, the remedy in order to be equal to the disease and be able to follow it out through bone and muscle, must also be divested of its materiality. Because the remedy being a material force, and the disease an immaterial subversive force, the difference between them is sufficient to annul the homœopathic law, like cures like; but the process of attenuation brings the medication exactly into the condition required. When a given drug undergoes the attenuating process, until no human vision can detect the least possible particle of the original substances, and then is carried far, very far beyond this stage, and retains not only the primary disease creating power, but its remedial virtues are greatly enhanced; we say, the medication is no longer a physical agent nor a material substance; but a dynamic or immaterial force, capable of entering directly into the very essence of disease, and getting up a set of symptoms in every respect similar to those of the primary subversive force. Hence the doctrine of attenuated doses becomes not only rational, but the only true system of practice.

Yours truly,

C. C. CROSSFIELD, M. D.

### THE CHOLERA IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

Since our last number, the Cholera has progressed in the city, and hundreds have fallen victims to it. The daily and weekly papers have furnished our readers with the details of this malady as it has prevailed here: which, renders it unnecessary for us at this time, to report the number of cases; but when the epidemic passes away, we will give as accurate statistics as it is possible to do. The homœopathic physicians have had no organization, and have not acted in concert, in the daily reports of their cases; and our Board of Health have managed this branch of their duty, in such a loose-end sort of a way, we doubt if it will be possible to secure anything like an exact account of the homœopathic treatment of that disease during its present prevalence. However this may be, allopathy has lost the confidence of hundreds, which she can never regain. There has been

a uniformity in the mode of the treatment of the Cholera with practitioners of our school, and a satisfaction in the results, which go to show, that the true mode of controlling that disease is homœopathic.

### THE SUPPRESSION OF URINE IN CHOLERA.

A writer in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, directs the attention of the profession to the fact that in genuine cholera, there is a "non-secretion of urine." That writer goes on to suggest the propriety of some remedy to remove this single symptom; by inference, he thinks such a remedy would cure the Cholera. This is the old, and erroneous mode of medical treatment, viz., that the theory of a disease, should indicate the cure. The art of medicine never made any progress by such a rule, and never can.—Hence it is, that all pathological investigations have not aided in the treatment of diseases; for the reason, a theory of cure is founded upon a theory of disease, while the truth is, the one should not be based upon the other. This is fundamental in Hahnemann's system.

We are surprised that so apparently able and experienced a physician, as the correspondent of the Boston Journal, should not have noticed, that in every, diarrhœa, there is a diminished quantity of urine, and usually it is in proportion to the violence of that disease. The Cholera diarrhœa is the most copious, and the urine is entirely suppressed. The same thing may be observed, in a less degree, in violent catharsis. Therefore we do not regard that symptom in Cholera as of much importance, for whenever the evacuations from the bowels cease, not by opium however, the secretion of urine will in a short period be resumed. This reminds us of another fact, which we think may be of some use to allopathic practitioners: if a blister plaster be applied to the abdomen, and a cathartic administered at the same time, they will not act together. If the blister plaster acts, the cathartic will not, and *vice versa*. The reason is plain enough, and yet this practice is pursued constantly by eminent men, and many a poor fellow has "suffered some" from a supposed constipation of the bowels, under such circumstances. But if our allopathic friends think us wrong in the view we have taken in regard to the suppression of urine, and that a remedy should be directed to the



kidneys, we will name Iodine as a remedy for that symptom, and they may try it in Cholera, it would not do as much harm as other drugs in use by them in that disease.

*Asking Medical Advice.*—Physicians who reside in cities are subject to a draft upon their time, and other impositions, to which those in the country are comparatively strangers. There are both men and women of intelligence who seem to consider that physicians are obliged, by the usages of society, to hear them narrate the minutest details of their sensations; what food and medicine they took under certain circumstances, and their opinions in relation to the whole matter; and then they expect the physician's views of the present condition of things. After obtaining in the fullest manner such advice as a discreet physician would give, they conclude it is best to be going, and moreover they express themselves as much obliged for the suggestions. They never intended to pay for the service rendered. Those who suffer most from this species of patronage, are the obliging, kind-hearted, sympathizing physicians, who can least afford to give away precious hours to such unworthy objects. The austere, unsocial, solitary practitioners, whose influence, like Montezuma's, depends on keeping people at a distance, and always at the freezing point, have no such liberties taken with them.

When the members of all medical associations, in towns and cities, have the independence to notify the whole public that they must invariably be paid on the spot for advice, and every visit, after the English custom, paid for daily at the bed-side of the patient, this inconvenience will be remedied, and few or no debts will be lost. A thousand annoyances and inconveniences, inseparably connected with the miserable system by which the practice of medicine is regulated in this country, might be obviated, and something more than a nominal income realized, were a revolution in this particular, brought about.—*Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.*

It is to us great pleasure to agree in anything with a cotemporary of the allopathic school. In the above from the Boston Journal, Dr. Smith, the Editor "has hit the nail on the head." The evil of which he speaks is a serious one, and the sooner all physicians resolve on a reform in that matter the better. A patient of ours who is now sitting near us while we write, says "Doctor, I perceive you have charged me two dollars a visit, I think that rather high." "Your bill sir, has remained unpaid for two years," was our reply; "but to avoid any unpleasant feeling hereafter, you will have the goodness to hand me one dollar and fifty cents, or leave it for

me, whenever I visit your family professionally." He agreed to this arrangement at once. Now, although it is well known to those acquainted with us, that we have no great skill in money matters; yet we do not doubt that we shall visit that family more promptly, and with much more satisfaction than we have done for some time past.

We do not know any better way to reach this subject, than to relate what physicians feel, although they are not apt to express it, in words. Yesterday evening, at 9 o'clock, we found ourself in our office, weary of a day's hard labor. We looked over our list of sick to see if all had been attended to, and one had not been visited; this patient was convalescent, and a visit could have been dispensed with, although the patient would have been disappointed. Now, our humane feelings would not move us to ride nearly a mile to gratify the mind of that patient; nor would the danger of a charge of a want of punctuality move us; but the thought that we should receive our fee in cash, renewed our strength, and we actually walked the distance, discharged our duty, received the thanks of the patient and family, and a gold coin to comfort us on our way home. Frequently we are disturbed at night by strangers, to visit the sick; and we often hear the complaint that they had called on several physicians who refused to go, and as it regards ourself, we are never sick except at such times. Now, let it be understood that no physician will refuse to get up at night and attend a professional call, if a reasonable fee is handed to him. We are heartily tired of keeping books, a science we do not well understand, and we intend to abandon it, which we can very soon accomplish, by the aid of our brethren. For some time past we have had no large bills against any one, for we send them in almost as soon as our attendance ends, in a case of sickness; and no one who intends to pay, has found fault with us, on this account. Physicians have impressed the people with the idea, that they do not practice their profession for money, and even some professors have so stated in their lectures to students. Our own mind was so impressed with this, that to this day, we feel a repugnance to make out a bill for services, &c. We are in favor of abolishing all law, for the collection of bills for medical services. Cash fees to physicians would remove a thousand evils which now

exist; and a thousand advantages would accrue to all concerned. If a patient is not able to pay a full fee, let him pay according to his means, this would be satisfactory. The sick would be more promptly attended, and the mind of the physician would be more active in conducting the treatment; and a good feeling would be kept up by all parties towards one another. We hope the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal will not let this subject rest where he has left it.

### ALLOPATHIC PHYSICIANS—THEIR CONDUCT.

The people begin to examine for themselves into the allopathic practice and the conduct of its practitioners. In a Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa., a patient, who was sick of Cholera, desired to be treated by D. Merit Drake, M. D., an eminent homœopath of that city. The authorities of the Hospital refused his reasonable request; and then his relations and friends proposed to remove him from the Hospital, but this also was peremptorily refused, and the man died. Public attention was drawn to the case, and a feeling of indignation began to show itself among the citizens; when through the influence of an allopathic physician, one of the daily papers of that city, editorially, charged the death of the patient to the interference of Dr. Drake, who replies to the charge under his own name pronouncing the whole relation of the case "*basely false*:" and introduces testimony to sustain himself in his statement of the matter. Soon afterwards there was a public meeting held for the purpose of making arrangements for establishing a hospital, for the homœopathic treatment of the Cholera; at which the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, viz:

*Whereas*, it is believed that the advantages of the Homœopathic System of medical practice, ought to be extended as widely as possible; especially by our efforts to the homeless and friendless, whom disease may prostrate in our midst; Therefore,

*Resolved*, 1st. That in the judgment of this meeting, we owe it to the cause of suffering humanity, to establish without delay, an Institution to be called the Pittsburgh and Alleghany Homœopathic Dispensary, to be located in this city, and to be open for the reception of persons standing in need of Hospital privileges, who are desirous of receiving homœopathic treatment.

2nd. That to carry out this humane purpose we now proceed to elect a Board of Directors consisting of one member from each ward of the two cities who shall take into their hands the management of this whole concern.

*Resolved*, That any person afflicted with the cholera, who desires to be treated homœopathically, should have that privilege, and that this meeting considers that any other course, which has been, or may be, pursued, is contrary to all justice, and meets with the unqualified disapprobation of this meeting.

Here follows the committee:

#### PITTSBURGH.

1st ward—D. McCandless.  
2d " A. McClintock.  
3d " Rev. Mr. Teasdale.  
4th " John Shepherd.  
5th " Thomas S. Blair.  
6th " Daniel Armstrong.  
7th " W. S. Courtney.  
8th " James Lippincott.  
9th " W. E. Bailey.

#### ALLEGHANY.

1st ward—Samuel Church.  
2d " L. O. C. Nickling.  
3d " John Erret.  
4th " Samuel Robinson.

We have not been advised what the above committee have accomplished, but if the cholera prevails epidemically in Pittsburgh, we have no doubt a Homœopathic Cholera Hospital will be established.

A similar course should have been pursued in this city at the commencement of the present epidemic. A suitable call would have filled the largest room in our city of the friends of homœopathia. But these had confidence in the judgment, and impartiality of our Board of Health, forgetting that it was controlled by the advice of an allopathic "medical council" whose bitter opposition to homœopathia is notorious; and others besides that counsel, are permitted to sit in secret with the Sanatory Committee who are, of all others, the most unprincipled opponents of our system.

All this, however, will not finally be prejudicial to the interests of homœopathia, for the people are looking on, and discussing the subject themselves with a zeal that will develop soon, their confidence in the system of medicine which has its foundation in immutable principles.

We could not notice the doctrine of Rau in this Number, as promised.



## HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT OF CHOLERA—ITS SUCCESS.

*To the Editor of the Tribune ;—*

The writer of the following letter is a regularly educated Physician of high standing. What he states can be relied on, for he is incapable of misrepresenting a matter of such importance. The people of this City, I think, will perceive soon that the controlling influence of Allopathic Medical Council, in our Board of Health, does not tend to save the lives of our citizens. If a hospital for the Homœopathic treatment of Cholera cannot be obtained from our authorities, let a public meeting be called and funds raised to establish one at once. I would volunteer my services professionally, and I presume others of the Homœopathic school would do the same, although at much inconvenience.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

July 27, 1849.

St. Louis, July 18, 1849.

Dr. S. R. KIRBY—*Dear Sir ;—*Your favor is just received. We have been passing through a trying ordeal of more than three months, with the Cholera in its worst form.—But amid the gloom, anguish and death which have enshrouded our city, homœopathy has shone forth, the only star in midnight darkness, and to those—with few exceptions, who have looked to it, the only safe guide through the darkness and the storm. Up to the 13th inst., three of us, (and the only three *Homœopaths* here) have treated 1,567 cases with a loss of only three per cent.

It is with great pain I announce to you the death of our German Homœopathic Physician two days since, after an illness of 4 hours, and before I could be found. He was the only German Physician we had and is a great loss. He was literally worn down. His practice was immense. Our German population numbers nearly 30,000.

We much need three or four men of learning and character. Can't you send us a German Physician immediately and several others of the right stamp as soon as possible. I have two Allopathic Physicians now studying with me who may be in the field in due time. I am almost, to use a western phrase, used up. I long for rest. Do write me occasionally; it is a great comfort to hear from a fellow laborer in so glorious a cause.

Ever sincerely,

JOHN T. TEMPLE, M. D.

## CHOLERA STATISTICS.

We lay before our readers all the facts which we have been enabled to collect, touching this scourge, in Cincinnati and our own city. Any comment would be superfluous.

From the Cincinnati papers we take the following report :—Cases of Cholera treated homœopathically, up to the 15th of May, 352 ; deaths, 3. The editor of one paper remarks :

"Three homœopathic physicians report their cases of Cholera, from 20th of April up to the 15th of May, to number one hundred and fifty-two, of which there has only been one death. Another homœopathic practitioner reports, for the last two weeks, eighty-eight cases of Cholera in his practice, and no death. Besides these, we learn that there are eight other homœopathic practitioners, who have been eminently successful. None of the above, we understand, have been reported to the Board of Health. The ratio of cures to cases treated in this city, by homœopathy, so far as we have learned, are about the same compared with those under allopathic treatment, as is generally found everywhere—that is to say, as ten to one in favor of the new system. The number of cases reported by allopathy, during the same time, was 393, of which number eighty-seven died.

In St. Louis we can only furnish the number of cases treated by three homœopathic physicians, which, up to the 27th of June, amounted to 537 cases ; of these 15 died.—*South-Western Homœopathic Journal.*

## THE GREAT QUESTION ABOUT TO BE DECIDED.

The queries—Will Saltpetre explode, and Do Snakes hiss? have been thrown into the shade, or lost in a fog, in the excitement raised by the controversy as to the true answer to the question—"When doctors disagree, who shall decide?" The old school say his honor, the Mayor shall—the new school say the people shall. The trial will come off to-day ; and we'll venture a bet of a gill of buttermilk (we never go higher) that the old school will be defeated. Their defence will be something like the great little kettle case—first, that they returned the kettle sound ; second, that the kettle was cracked when they got it ; and third, that they never had the kettle. In the first place, the Board of Health has no authority to commence suits in the name of the city for alleged violations of ordinances ; second, the present Board is not a board, their time having expired nearly a year ago ; third, the City Solicitor had better attend to the business entrusted to his care by the special order of Council ; fourth, the Board of Health has no right to take the money of the poor and sick to pay a lawyer to fight their private battles ; fifth, they have no right to make a man's opinions on religion, politics or medicine, as a test as to his claims to the charity of the city.

Our readers will readily perceive that we have advanced the strongest objection last having followed the illustrious example of a certain eminent counsellor, who gave thirteen reasons why a witness should not be fined by the Court for non-attendance—the last of said thirteen reasons being, that the man had died some two weeks previously ! Well, well, we



live and learn every day, that doctors, as well as white men, are very uncertain. In the language and spirit of ancient chivalry, we exclaim, "God show the right!" or, in other words, let every one take care of his own toes, as the jackass said when he danced among the chickens.—*Cincinnati Daily Times*.

### FASHION AND FOLLY OF MEDICAL MEN.

Great events always develop the prevailing features of character. A strong illustration of this truth is daily exhibited by the great display of talent, in theorizing about the causes of Cholera and its cure.

Such has been the mystery thrown around the medical profession for thousands of years, that none but the medical priesthood dared enter its sacred walls, or look into its cabalistic tomes, until the present century. Now, mind is bursting the shackles which has for so many ages bound it in ignorance, and men ask—Why this mystery? What is disease? What its cure? In the alarm and confusion caused by this bold innovation, the wily priesthood seek, by weaving a theoretic gauze of gaudy and diversified colors, to captivate the eye and divert the mind from the inquiry. In vain may these theorists refresh themselves at the fountain of humoral pathology, inflate themselves with Vacuous Ozone, stupify themselves with Carbonic Acid Gas, or waste their energies and their ink in fruitless efforts to deceive themselves and the public. The people say—Give us the cure of Cholera, and away with your theories about the cause! What do we care about the cause, if we have the cure! If there be a cause producing Cholera, there cannot be a thousand, differing in their character and properties, which result in a similar effect. Such an idea is unphilosophical—it is an absurdity.

To those of the profession who have thus wasted their time and their talent, we say—If half this time had been spent in studying the principles and practice of homœopathy, many a heart now cheerless, would have been rejoicing—many a family now peopling the city of the dead, would have been gathered around a family board, enjoying the blessings of this life—many a bleeding heart would have been spared the opening wound, and all would now have been speaking the praises, and blessing the name of the immortal *Hahnemann*.—*South-Western Homœopathic Review*.

### HOMŒOPATHIC EMULSION.

Dr. Nusser proposes the employment of an emulsion as a vehicle for the administration of homœopathic remedies. This he prepares merely by dissolving the well-known globules in water. He has them prepared by a confectioner in the most accurate manner, with two parts of fine white sugar to one of fine starch powder. They must be very small, about 600 should weigh only one grain; during the

preparation of the globules the starch on their surface seems to be changed into a kind of gum. If about half a drachm of these be dissolved in one ounce of common spring water, the solution presents an agreeable white appearance, the rest of the starch being held suspended in the gum. The consistence of the emulsion may be increased or diminished by adding more or less of the globules. In order to preserve it from fermentation a drop or two of alcohol of 75 or 80 0-0 should be added to each ounce of water. The taste of the emulsion then resembles that of punch (*sic*!). To medicate the emulsion a drop or a few globules of the remedy are added, and the whole well shaken.—*Alg. Ztg. fur Hom.* No. 1.

An eminent physician of our school has reported to us, that he cured in a few days, a severe attack of *Pleurisy* in a lady 70 years of age, with *Pulsatilla*; and a relapse of it with *Lycopodium*. The particulars were not related.

We have received a communication from Dr. John L. Gage of Le Roy, N. Y. The Doctor is a zealous advocate of homœopathy. He has had a private written controversy with some allopathic physician, and has failed to convince his opponent. In this there is nothing remarkable, for others have undertaken the same work with a like success. Of late, we have not intruded a single word on an allopath on homœopathy, unless he evidences a sincere desire for information on that subject.

We do not agree with Dr. Gage on the propriety of publishing the correspondence which he has furnished us for that purpose, as he has omitted to state, that it is by the consent of his opponent, who most certainly is a party interested, and should be consulted in the matter. The propagation of our science does not require us to take any undue advantage of those who oppose us. These views we hope, will convince Dr. G. that we desire to deal fairly with him and all others, and that we cherish for him the kindest feelings, and fully appreciate his zeal in the cause of medical reform.

### NOTICE.

The undersigned proposes to deliver a regular course of daily lectures on the practice of medicine, to commence on the 5th day of November next, and to end on the 1st of March following.

Tickets for the course, \$15.

A more extended notice of these lectures will appear in the next number of this Journal, and also in a circular.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

New York, July 26th, 1849.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

Subscriptions for this Journal will be received as heretofore, by Otis Clapp, Boston, Mass., by J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Rademacher, Phila.



# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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VOL. 4.

New-York, September, 1849.

NO. 5.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1849.

FATAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE PRESENT MODES OF PRACTICE.

(Continued from page 51)

With results like these constantly before us, the duty of addressing ourselves on all possible occasions to an impartial examination of any new doctrine alleged to lead to a satisfactory system, and at the same time professing to be founded on pure induction, and, consequently, to claim attention solely on the evidence of recorded facts, need scarcely be enforced. The question is not if the present modes of medical practice are to be utterly condemned as causing, in the aggregate, more injury than benefit; it is enough to show that in a vast number of cases they are productive of unmitigated evils—evils which could not arise if these modes rested on a scientific basis, and which therefore sufficiently indicate that the true principle of the healing art is yet to be ascertained.

That the discovery of this principle is destined to be effected is plainly inculcated by expe-

rience. The advantages which are supplied to the lower animals by instinct are to be attained by man by the exercise of his reasoning power; and the impulse which guides the dog bitten by the cobro de capella to the plant which forms its antidote, or which urges to its medicinal wells the diseased cattle of Llangan Schwalbach, is not given in order to render them in this respect superior to man, but because they are denied the higher intelligence by which man is to acquire a similar immunity, and the exercise of which in any direction invariably brings unexpected additions to his means of happiness. It is too true, that upon meeting with failure, the indolent and self-complacent are prone to solace themselves by assuming that it arises not from their own lack of perseverance, but because in the nature of things success is not to be attained, and in no department of science has this depressing argument been more frequently resorted to than in medicine. Scurvy, which is now more easily controlled than almost any other malady, was formerly set down not only as a disease incurable then, but as one so formidable that it never would be cured. In like manner Sir James McGrigor, in mentioning the absence, at present, of any remedy for tetanus, speaks of there being "little hope that it will ever be found out," and this with a knowledge that the disorder is not incurable, since recovery has been known to take place spontaneously. Similar expressions are constantly to be observed in the writings of medical men.

But those who are imbued with a sense of the unalterable tendency of science to lead from certainty to certainty—the view widening in an increasing ratio with each ascending step—will regard as treasonable to the cause of human progress each despairing cry that "the limit is attained." "It is a heartless apathy," writes Dr. Rogers, "equally unworthy of the philanthropist and the physician, that

can look at the mass of disease yet unsubmitted to the control of medicine without humiliation at its extent, and anxiety for its diminution; and who shall say that its diminution, nay its final extinction, may not ultimately be accomplished? There are depths in science, and in medicine too, of which our present means of investigation only serve to shew the profundity; but who will venture, either in the one case or in the other, to set bounds to the future advancement of knowledge?"

In search then of a true basis for medical science, self-love, benevolence, and hope, alike prompt us to unwearied efforts. Of those who are daily called from the world, the number dying of old age is small indeed; and each man must therefore recognise the probability that a time may come, not only to himself, but to those for whose welfare he is especially answerable, when a continuance of life will depend upon the judicious application of the powers of medicine; and when, if contending doctrines be presented to him, it will be too late to decide upon their claims.

These considerations should also press on that large class of superficial persons, who, while they feel themselves both unwilling and incompetent to examine evidence on scientific points, are, nevertheless, apt, for the sake of popularity, to echo, as if from their own deliberate opinion, the prejudices of others, and thus to indispose persons over whom they possess influence—for the very weak find some still weaker to look up to them—from paying attention to the subject. The temptation of keeping on the safe side by refusing to recognise, or even to examine a new doctrine, until the majority have come over to it, is irresistible to those who do not feel sufficient power to stand alone, and in yielding to the impulse, they incur no other charge than that of weakness. But when such persons cease to confine themselves to a mere reserve of judgment, and flippantly repeat as original, or quote with approbation the contemptuous remarks of a third party, it would be well, on all occasions, that they should be visited with reproof. If they feel themselves competent to examine the evidence in relation to it, it is their duty to do so, and not to give an opinion until the task be completed; and, if they do not feel thus competent, they certainly cannot be fit to judge of the competency of those whose sentiments they echo, since it is much easier to decide upon the existence of those intellectual and

moral qualities which must be possessed by another, to justify us in adopting his judgment as our own.

The great obstruction to all new truths has arisen from this class; the weakest, but unfortunately the most numerous; and yet, so inconsistent are they, that while in their reckless vanity they pronounce opinions upon questions which involve the welfare of multitudes, and often, as far as their influence extends, cause the most deplorable consequences; they would not know a moment's peace if it could absolutely be made plain to their eyes that they were the authors of any fatal casualty. It is probable that many a person who, in the early stage of Jenner's discovery, may have prevented by a passing sneer, in unison with the popular feeling of the day, some one from resorting to vaccination, who afterwards died of smallpox, at the same time spreading the contagion; would never again have passed a quiet night if he had run over a child, or set fire to a house, or committed any other fatal act, resulting from accidental causes which he could neither foresee nor control, and not as in the other case, from a deliberate exercise of the will. It is not intended to assert that persons of this description are never to express their views, but as, when an opinion is positively set forth on an important subject, we naturally infer that it has been formed on some proper ground, it is a fraud to state anything dogmatically where this has not been the case, and it is their business, therefore, when they state that such and such is their opinion on any given subject (as it was the business of those, for instance, who stated their disbelief in the circulation of the blood or the use of vaccination,) to add that they know nothing about it, or that their disbelief is merely founded on the disbelief of some one else, or upon the circumstance that the new doctrine is different from anything they would have expected. In such case no harm will be done, and no responsibility incurred. In the first instance, the acknowledgment of ignorance will deprive their opinion of all value; in the second, the quotation of their authority will prevent the opinion appearing to be that of two persons, when it is in fact only the opinion of one,—the other being merely an echo; and in the third, as it is well known that "upon experience the acknowledged constitution and course of nature is found to be greatly different from what, before experience, would have been expected,"

their statement would operate rather for than against the doctrine it is intended to refute.

Having thus attempted to show that there is no ground for refusal, or plea for indifference, it will now be our task to examine the evidence regarding the alleged homœopathic law, and the system of practice to which it has given rise.

Sampson on Homœopathy.

THE REPETITION OF THE MEDICINAL DOSES.

BY DR. GRIESSELICH.

(Continued from page 54.)

C. Hering occupied himself with this theme simultaneously with *Wolf* and others.—We saw in the 1st edition of the “Chronic Diseases” that *Hahnemann* could not have meant that a remedy ought to be administered in several succeeding doses, yet he admitted that the same remedy (*f. i. Sepia*) might again, after the administration of another remedy, be beneficially given; with *Calcarea*, though, he would hardly allow this. That kind of repetition was generally meant by *Hahnemann*, in relation to the “antipsoric” remedies as *such* (repetition) designated; according to *Hering*, it is “repetition preceded by other remedies;” repetition *in alternation* on the contrary, if two remedies are given in alternation, several times repeated, one after the other.

Repetition of the medicinal dose was proper where the remedy on account of deficiency of one action must again and again be given. In very painful affections no long delay was allowed. He *likes* to repeat on the second, fourth, seventh, eleventh, or sixteenth days, and until re-action or new symptoms appear. In too strong homœopathic aggravations he also repeats, but then gives at the most, only a second dose, preferring to give an antidote between; the same remedy proved its own antidote, and the “potencies” were thoroughly efficient (for instance the “potencies” of tobacco in smokers.) If the re-action is of too short a duration, he gives the second dose mostly on the succeeding day. He renews the dose after a lasting healing effect came on, but terminated again; *Aconite* in inflammation, etc.

Gross, *Kretshmar*, and *Rau*, have at the same time with *Wolf* approved of the repetition of the medicinal doses. *Gross* mentions instances of cures with *Belladonna*, *Mercury*, *Tart. Stib*, *Sepia*, etc. *Kretshmar* removed with repeated doses of *Causticum* a spasmodic affection. *Rau* said, “The more I reflect on the matter, the less I can, generally speaking, comprehend the reason why a remedy should not be given several times in succession.” It can without hesitation (risk?) be repeated, if the beneficial effect of the given dose has ceased too soon, and the remedy is still adapted to the disease.

Rau has, in his writings, always favored the repetition in its proper place.

Among those who in later times agitated this subject more extensively, is, above all—

Kämpfer, whose excellent essay in the twentieth volume of the “Allg. Homœop. Zeitung,” included also the repetition of the doses. According to *Kämpfer*, *Hahnemann* allowed much too long a duration of effect for all remedies.

The magnitude and repetition of the medicinal doses, stand in a certain relation to each other, and this *Kämpfer* examines closer. Especially, in acute diseases, or in long intervals between the individual doses, could the remedy be continued in fixed periods, and in unchanged doses, even to the termination of the disease; this was however not very frequently the case; the intervals and the magnitude of the doses undergo a change by the repetition.

By reason of the decrease of *receptivity*, where it is necessary, as for instance in the chronic diseases, to continue the remedy for a longer time, the remedy must generally be given *stronger*, if it was to be repeated; the sooner the repetition the sooner the decrease of receptivity for the impression of the remedy; by the repetition of the doses, the receptivity was seldom increased, particularly in small doses; he mentions instances of such augmentations. Nevertheless, there were also patients enough whose susceptibility remained for years at an equal degree, if there were only periods of freedom from medicinal influence.

As the duration of effect of the remedies terminates sooner in acute than in chronic diseases, the dose must consequently be repeated sooner in the former than in the latter. *Kämpfer* in general distinguishes remedies of shorter and longer duration of effect; the former were to be repeated, in acute diseases, every four, two, one, one-half, and one-quarter hours; the latter, however, every two to twelve, even twenty-four hours; in such a case, after a few more rapid doses, an intermission of several hours was advised. In chronic diseases the remedies of long duration of effect were to be given every twenty-four hours, frequently not even as often, and the remedies of short duration, often several times in twenty-four hours; it was seldom necessary to give several doses a day of the remedies of long duration. *Kämpfer* advises just as much against a too long delay, as against too energetic measures, recommending an avoidance of both extremes. The degree of improvement decides him in general for the repetition. In critical operations, a decided improvement will be seen to follow; in case those operations have to be supported, the remedy is to be continued in the same or even stronger dose; here it seems as if the effect of the later-administered doses was more antidote-like in comparison to the former, by which the critical operation (beneficial homœop. aggravation,) has been produced; where the critical operation was too powerful, it was reduced very often by

smaller doses of the same remedy, and the cure effected. Kämpfer admits here, also, an antidotary relation.

Kämpfer advises especial caution in the repetition of larger doses, in order to avoid the development of a medicinal disease.

Attomyr wrote in the new Archiv, in relation to repetition. In like manner as he was directed to the standard of doses for the sick, by experiments upon the healthy, so also for the closely connected repetition of the doses, the materia medica alone and not the sick-bed can afford rules for the magnitude and repetition of the doses. While proceeding for example's sake from the effect of wine, on the space of time between the doses; in regard to this it seemed to him evident, from experiments upon the healthy, that by the repetition of the medicinal doses, only two objects could be attained: (1.) the *increase*; (2.) the *repetition of the medicinal effect*; the former by the renewal of doses at short intervals, the latter, at *long* intervals. The increase does not further the purpose of the homœopathic healing principle. The repetition of the medicinal effect at long intervals, was the only kind of repetition, which seems to be, in the present state of things, postulated by the practice.

Attomyr does not regard the repetition of the doses as a sort of perfection, but as a "last resource," in consequence of the "defective knowledge of the total effect of most of the remedies," the frequent improper selection of the remedy and magnitude of the dose, etc. What constitutes a long, and what a short interval, must also be deduced from the materia medica. We have remedies both of short and of long duration of effect. In all medicinal agents appear single features of their effect. Some are quick and of short duration; others are later and last longer; this varies from one hour to several weeks, and even months.

The pernicious agents produce disease at one time of shorter, at another of longer duration; the healing agents must in similarity correspond by their various duration of effect, with this quality of the disease, as the homœopathic healing principle requires, according to Attomyr, similarity of the remedy and the effect of the dose, as well as of the duration of effect; the homœopathic healing principle was, without the minuteness and scarcity of the doses, (as they were never known before Hahnemann) impracticable.

The force of *habit* was a particularly powerful enemy to the repetition: the organism may be deadened even to the action of poisons. This was felt and of interim remedies between the doses spoken.

The repetition depends upon the magnitude of the dose; large doses concur with frequent repetition; small ones do not. *Aconite*, 30th dilution, could not even in pneumonia be hourly repeated with benefit. *Aconite*, 3d dilution, might however. The treatment of pneumonia with lower dilutions (stronger doses and more frequent repetitions,) he thinks corresponds

better with the principle of similarity than the treatment with higher dilutions.

If all which Attomyr infers from the materia medica relative to the magnitude and repetition of the doses was true and evident, then we could only express our great astonishment that the founder of the pure materia medica arrived at definitions regarding those two points, which do not agree in the least with these of Attomyr.

If the homœopathic healing principle was, without the minuteness and scarcity of the doses "impracticable," then the allopathists, who perform by means of *Homœopathia involuntaria* their best cures, would not cure, neither would those physicians cure, who employ only larger doses and at proper intervals.

Attomyr asserted in amount the same that Kämpfer did, who some time previous had likewise compared the magnitude and repetition of the doses, had directed our attention to the law of habit, and to acute and chronic diseases in the remedies of long and short duration of effect. If, however, we consider, for instance, that frequently-repeated doses of *Calcareo carbon.* have by Elb been employed with decided benefit, in very acute, dangerous cases of scarlatina, while *Calcar. carb.* was pronounced to be a remedy of very long duration of effect, then the key to the repetition of the doses cannot be found in the remedy alone. *Arsenic* and *Phosphor.* are remedies of "long duration of effect" and nevertheless it may happen, that both remedies should, for instance in acute diseases, be given every hour and even oftener. Neither the nature of the remedy, nor the materia medica (that is, the pure experiment,) are our assistants, but the *organism*.

Koch has in the same manner as he has done with the medicinal doses, compressed what can be said in relation to this subject, into a small compass.

(1.) The more the healing potency is the simile, the less is a repetition of dose necessary. Repetitions in minute quantities are not only harmless, but are necessary for the safety of the cure.

(2.) The less the healing potency is the simile, the more frequent is a repetition necessary.

(3.) The more intense the morbid process, the oftener is a repetition of the healing potency required.

(4.) The more rapid (acute) the morbid process, the more frequent; and the more slow (chronic) the same morbid process, the more seldom is a repetition necessary.

(5.) The more the healing potency is the simile, the more injurious is a repetition in large doses.

These very general propositions are completely consonant with those of Koch in relation to the magnitude of the doses, and give, with regard to the individuality of the illness in question, the most extensive latitude.

(To be continued.)

THE LAW OF CURE.

An Address delivered before the American Institute of Homœopathia at its sixth annual meeting, held at Philadelphia, June 13, 1849. By B. F. JOSLIN, M. D. Published by OTIS CLAPP, Boston.

THE above is the title of a pamphlet of 18 pages, neatly printed on good paper, which by chance we saw upon the counter of a Book-store of this city, and for which we paid the sum of *twelve and a half cents*. After a careful reading of it, we are prepared to express the opinion, that our money was well expended.

"The Law of Cure." A work with such a title, however small it may be, should at once fix the attention of every member of the medical profession on it; and the inquiry should be, Is there such a law, and what is it?

Once establish "the Law of Cure," and the way is open to a true healing art; without it, all is empiricism. If the art of medicine is without an immutable law, it is of uncertain value, and we do not perceive it reasonable to suppose more than one such law.

We shall content ourself on this subject at this time, with a few extracts from the address with now and then a passing remark. After mentioning "several obstacles which prevent man from deriving any general rule of cure from post-mortem phenomena," Dr. J. goes on to say:

Now any law of cure must express some relation between the properties of a disease and the medical character of a drug; that is, the character of its action on the living body. This character cannot be represented by a single effect, but by a group of effects. As a group of symptoms is the only representative of a malady, and a group of effects on the living body the only representative of the medical character of a drug, there can be no law of cure unless it expresses some definite relation (either mediate or immediate) between these two classes of groups.

It remains for us to determine what class of medical effects must be selected as one of the elements of the therapeutic rule. One plan is to select the curative effects: a certain drug has removed a certain disease or group of symptoms; therefore it will remove it in future. This empirical method, when practised by the laity, is considered as an element of quackery, but when practised by regular physicians is dignified with the title of practice founded on medical experience, and is much vaunted at the present day. Has it not been the favorite method of the most observant allopathic practitioners, whenever their experience had be-

come sufficient to teach them the practical fallacies of the self-styled rational system in which they had been indoctrinated? But this is only the first stage of their progress. They soon find that their own experience conflicts with those they find recorded, and the latter with each other. If that medical skepticism which follows this discovery should not induce them to quit the profession, their preservation is owing to a new idea which is fortunately hatched at the same moment when the old one expires. This young progeny of the ashes of the former theory, is innocent of all positive crime, and is known as the expectant theory, or confidence in nature and bread-pills.

Such is the deplorable tendency of empirical therapeutics. It must always remain defective, even in its partial applications, and can never establish any general law. The true test of a genuine law, is its establishing some definite relation between phenomena not hitherto observed. Such for example is the law of gravitation, by which the astronomer can predict what motion would take place in a group of heavenly bodies, under any supposed conditions of mass, distance and previous movement in each at a given instant. The system of Ptolemy had no such astronomical law: empirical medicine has no law. It can never enable us to pass from the known to the unknown. A true law has, essentially in its very nature, this element of progression. Such is the prerogative of the homœopathic law in medicine. It establishes a relation not only between proved drugs and known diseases, but between all the unexplored medical wealth of nature and all the future medical wants of humanity.

The specifiers of Germany, like the allopathic school, attempted to found a *materia medica* on clinical experience. But how have they verified the practicability of their notions? Where and what is their *materia medica*? Who will have the temerity to compare it with Hahnemann's? It is one thing to discover now and then a specific, and quite another thing to establish a law for the discovery and administration of all specifics. Many an ignorant individual has done the former; but a hundred generations of physicians were engaged in these uncertain, dangerous and comparatively fruitless experiments, before it pleased Providence to raise up a man capable of effecting the latter.

Those who reject this homœopathic law endeavor to establish a *materia medica* and select their remedies either, 1st, by the method of pure clinical experience; or 2dly, by physiological method; or 3dly, by various mixtures or combinations of both. The first method is empiricism; the second, rationalism; the third, eclecticism.

These three modes are briefly but ably explained, and their fallacies made distinctly to appear. "Some form, combination or mixture of the clinical and the physiological methods is adopted by all physicians, except the homœo-

pathists. One physician," says the address, "professes to be governed mainly by the clinical experience of the profession, another by physiological principles, another by both. All three ask, why do you call us allopathists?"

This question is answered, and should be satisfactory.

Dr. J. says further: But as homœopathy is founded both on experience and reason, why is it not a combination of empiricism and rationalism? I answer, empiricism is the practising under the guidance of experience, without a law; the homœopathist practises under the guidance of a law established by experience. Rationalism is a system built up by reasoning upon subjects which are beyond the scope of human reason. Such is every system which is based upon the occult properties of diseases and the occult properties of drugs, and reasons upon the relation between these two classes of properties. Homœopathy is based upon the obvious properties of diseases and the obvious properties of drugs, and ascertains, by observation alone, the curative relation between these two classes of properties. It is reasonable to require such a foundation, and to erect the superstructure with such caution. Therefore this system is eminently rational. But because it is rational, because its reasoning is strictly inductive and founded on facts distinctly observable by finite man, it is not rationalism. Right reason is normal, rationalism a monstrosity.

Hahnemann and his disciples are the only medical philosophers who have been true to the inductive method, in the reasonings which they have employed in establishing a therapeutic law. They have proved, by abundant experience, that a medicine will remove a group of symptoms similar to the group which it is capable of producing. The law is founded on the observations, and on nothing else.

Those who desire it, may be helped to a pretty distinct view of "the law of cure" by the following:

There are three relations which the symptoms of a drug can sustain to those of a disease, namely, identity, similarity, and dissimilarity. The last includes opposition. Therefore antipathy is a branch of allopathy. Let us consider it a moment. As a rule it is impracticable. There is no disease which has any considerable proportion of its symptoms opposite to those of any drug. Hence if this is the condition of cure, no malady is curable by medicine.

Passing from opposition to other forms of dissimilarity, we find none which can form the basis of a general therapeutic law. To form an estimate of pure allopathy, we must separate from it every homœopathic ingredient. In such an extreme case, is there any conceivable basis of curative action? If between none of the symptoms of the drug and those of the disease, there is either the relation of identity, similarity or opposition, we must infer that the

special action of the drug is on different functions, different organs and different tissues from those on which the disease specially acts, and that the two actions differ in nature as well as location. Is it not next to demonstrable, that such a destitution of all intimate relation, must imply the want of all curative agency? To speak figuratively, there is no handle by which the drug can grasp the disease.

The degrees of conceivable relationship between the action of drugs and that of a disease may be represented by an immense circle. Identity is the central point. Around this point stands isopathy. Immediately around it are arranged the most perfect degrees of similarity. This is the province of perfect homœopathy. Contiguous to this is the annulus or ring of similarities less perfect, but still great. This is the theatre of that homœopathic practice, which, though not perfect, may be denominated good. Encircling this is a ring of similarities and dissimilarities, the region of allopathic homœopathy. If in our survey we proceed a step farther outward, we cross the line of nominal homœopathy, the circular line that separates allopathic homœopathy from homœopathic allopathy. This last is an annulus of similarities so defective as to merit the epithet of dissimilarities. The old school practitioner, without any particular design, often travels in this region, and sometimes into the interior rings, still nearer the disease, and thus effects its mitigation or cure. Passing still farther outward, we come to the annular region of great dissimilarity, the domains of allopathy as pure as practicable; and beyond that, at the circumference of the great circle, we may imagine the region of perfect dissimilarity, and of allopathy as pure as is conceivable. We have before seen that here is no relation which can be the basis of curative action.

Let us pass abruptly from the circumference to the centre. Is identity the requisite point? Is isopathy the true principle of cure? In considering this system, it is of the utmost importance to be continually impressed with the fact, that identity is but a single mathematical point; it has no dimensions. The slightest conceivable departure from it is similarity. Professed and attempted isopathy is in a position of unstable equilibrium, like a rod balanced on a point at its lower extremity! In spite of all attempts to preserve its erect and central position, it is continually tottering into the homœopathic region. We must not confound apparent with proper isopathy. I believe the latter to have no existence as a curative system.

We can find room only for one more extract, which is: "An opinion prevails to some extent in the community, that homœopathy has been actually examined by many allopathic physicians, and found by them to be untrue in principle and ineffacious in practice. Those who state that they have made an examination with such results, have no adequate conception of what is implied in their statement. It is implied, that they have repeatedly taken and ad-

ministered a variety of our potentized medicines, in small doses, and always without any effect, either in producing or removing symptoms; secondly, that they have taken doses, in number and magnitude sufficient to produce numerous symptoms, and that these symptoms differed entirely from those recorded by Hahnemann and his disciples; thirdly, that many drugs, each of which was known by them to be capable of producing many symptoms, have been separately given by these physicians to many patients, each of whose cases was specially characterized by many symptoms producible by the drug administered, and yet this drug given in sufficiently small doses and at sufficient intervals, neither cured nor benefitted the patient. I deny that any such trials have ever been made with such results. Not one of the three classes of experiments, as above indicated, has ever been made by any man who is still a professed allopathic physician. The first class of experiments above indicated, would, if honestly and judiciously made, verify the efficiency of the smallest doses ever administered by Hahnemann; the second class would verify his *materia medica*; and the third class, his law of cure; a law which, by its universality and importance, gives to Hahnemann the same rank in medicine that Newton has in astronomy."

Many, with ourself, have regretted that the law of cure, *similia similibus curantur*, which is fully established, should not be fixed in the mind of every one who attempts to prescribe for the sick homœopathically; and that it be made strictly the rule of our art, in all cases. If this were so, then there would be no leaning to allopathy in any of its thousand forms, as is too often the case with some of our school.

We hope the address of Dr. Joslin will be extensively read, and thoroughly considered by the profession generally.

ECLECTICISM AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Homœopathy:

SIR:—In your August No., I perceive certain allusions to the Eclectic Medical Institute, exceedingly discourteous in manner, as well as incorrect in point of fact.

When a medical college, ranking as the E. M. Institute, fifth in point of numbers in America, and eighth in number of graduates, has sufficient liberality and boldness to encounter the fierce denunciations of medical bigotry by establishing a chair of Homœopathy, it might be supposed that a Homœopathic editor would at least regard the movement with kindness and courtesy, if not with gratitude.

As to the very rude and very unjust personalities of your essay, I shall only remark that *I deny every material allegation*; and especi-

ally deny that any individual is or has been connected with our Institute, but regularly educated medical men.

So far from Homœopaths outnumbering Eclectics a hundred to one, as you affirm, they are *far inferior in numbers* in the United States. It is difficult to arrive at exact numbers in these matters, but there are few Eclectics who would be willing to acknowledge a smaller sum total than three thousand practitioners in this country; and without our assistance, it will be long ere Homœopathy can approximate our numbers.

That our labors have changed the medical legislation of the different states, and that Homœopathy is now flourishing under the shelter that we have thus erected, is too well known to be denied. It was not Homœopathy but Eclecticism that wrested the Cholera Hospital of Cincinnati from the grasp of medical Hunkerism. It was Eclecticism which procured petitions from more than four-fifths of the voters and intelligence of this city in favor of equalizing the rights of medical colleges and of medical students in this state. It was Eclecticism which procured in the legislature a majority of fifty-one to thirty-six against the monopoly of the Ohio Medical College in the Cincinnati Commercial Hospital. Eclecticism has liberalized public sentiment throughout the United States, has gratuitously assisted Homœopathy, and is at this time doing more than Homœopathy in preparing for the downfall of the old school system of medicine.

Our Institute has professed, heretofore, to recognise Homœopathy in its outline of science—we have faithfully carried out our professions in appointing a Homœopathic professor. In doing this, our friends think that we have been far too generous in yielding our established position and influence, the fruit of many years' toil, as a platform to support the pretensions of Homœopathy. Did we act in these matters merely as medical politicians, or as ultra partizans, we could not have yielded our support to Homœopathy, as we have on this and other occasions; but a higher motive guides our movement. We recognise Homœopathy, because we believe it entitled to recognition on account of its positive merits, and we select an experienced Homœopathic physician as the best qualified to do full justice to the Homœopathic system.

By this single step we have done more for the diffusion of a knowledge of Homœopathy, than the whole Homœopathic fraternity of the United States have accomplished up to the present time. We shall thus impart, annually, to about two hundred medical men, a full knowledge of Homœopathy. With this paternal assistance from the Institution, Homœopathy must afterwards stand upon its own merits—if it be entitled by its success, or any other merit, to take the lead among our therapeutic resources, then we bid it God speed! The miserable jealousy which you seem to think an essential element of the medical char-

acter, has no existence in the Faculty of the Institute; and this I claim as no small merit, for I have never before known a body of medical men free from that characteristic professional sin.

Our Faculty have not been separated from the old school party, as you intimate, by their own denunciatory course. We are separated by the fact that our whole system of practice is widely different, and that we cannot concur in the bigotry, or submit to the restrictions of the old school party. We are struggling for medical freedom and justice, and all who receive the benefit of our labors should honor the laborers.

Whether Homœopaths will assist us in propagating a knowledge of Homœopathy is not a matter that controls our course. Yet, permit me to ask, why (if Homœopathic students are generally instructed in Allopathic schools) do you prefer that they should attend the shrines of medical Hunkerism, to breathing the purer atmosphere of a liberal school, in which Homœopathy is honored, and in which, in addition to Homœopathy, a system of practice is taught which I do not believe that even Homœopathy has surpassed, if it has equalled its results? In the cholera epidemic of this city, our average mortality has been 4 1-3 per cent., as you will see by the address of the Eclectic Medical Society. In all other diseases, Eclectics are ready to compare statistics in generous and friendly emulation with Homœopaths. With old school practice, we make not comparisons, but contrasts.

Looking at our proposed assistance to Homœopathy as an ultra partizan, you appear disposed to repel it. Permit me to suggest that there are different opinions on this subject. Eclecticism appears more congenial to the American mind than ultra Hahnemannism, and the only opinion we have seen publicly expressed as yet, by disinterested spectators, was not that Homœopathy could be injured by the association, but that Eclecticism would seriously compromise its own standing, and be reduced to the level of Homœopathic charlatanry. Such expressions, however, are to be expected from illiberal minds, and we pay as little regard to Allopathic as we do to Homœopathic bigotry. It is not in the power of any party to prevent our advocacy of any thing that we regard as true, or to lead us further than our own judgment shall dictate.

JOS. R. BUCHANAN.

Cincinnati, Aug. 15, 1849.

The above communication hardly requires a word of comment from us, inasmuch as the unprejudiced reader can scarcely fail to perceive that it is a good defence of our article in the August No. of this Journal. The object of that article was to show that "the Homœopathic school should not amalgamate with the Allopathic." Our manner of doing this has given offence to Dr. Buchanan, and he charges us

with being "incorrect in point of fact." The former we regret, and the latter we leave Dr. B.'s letter to correct, which should be satisfactory to him, although we are unable to perceive what we have misrepresented. The personal part of our article we are almost as familiar with as our own history; but Dr. B. says,—"*I deny every material allegation.*" We shall not allow ourself in a controversy on this point, but simply refer Dr. B. to his friend Dr. G., of this city, who knows as much about the matter as we do, and to whom we understand he sent the above letter for his sanction or rejection.

Dr. B. expects that the appointment of a Professor of Homœopathia in the Eclectic Institute will do "more for the diffusion of a knowledge of Homœopathy than the whole Homœopathic fraternity of the United States have accomplished up to the present time." This question we shall not argue, as it is unnecessary. But we see it stated in the "FIFTH ANNUAL CIRCULAR" of the ECLECTIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE, that the text books are "Hartmann, Hering and Hull's Laurie, on Homœopathy, as well as other standard works."

Now, every one who understands our science and art will ask, what kind of Homœopathia will be taught in that Institute with Hartmann and Laurie for the text books? Our own answer is, Allopathia and Eclecticism. The basis of both those works is the nosology and pathology of the Allopathists, which can never be made to conform to the law of cure "*similia similibus curantur.*" While on this point, we take occasion to remark further, that this is the reason why there are those who claim to differ from pure Homœopathists, and call themselves "Eclectics" and "Rational Homœopathists." These, attempt to make the law of cure conform to the *nosology* of the Allopathic school, which is impossible. For this reason we stated in this Journal, more than a year ago, that there was a tendency among certain professed Homœopathists to merge themselves, and as they would fain have the public believe, Homœopathy into Eclecticism or Rational Homœopathy, which is virtually one and the same thing, and which is hardly a remove from Allopathy.

We do not deem it necessary to notice but one other point in Dr. B.'s letter, it is, "Eclecticism appears more congenial to the American mind than ultra Hahnemannism."

The word *ultra* has an ugly sound, and

there is usually associated with it some bad thing. The meaning of *ultra*, in most minds, is indefinite, and it has become, of late years, quite common in popular assemblies, and in popular essays, where it is desirable to detract from the influence of any man or class of men to denounce the one an *ultraist* and the others *ultraists*. Very lately we have noticed the same use of that term to ridicule Homœopathy, and Dr. B. adopts it. Webster says the word *ultra* means, "a person who advocates extreme measures." Now, Hahnemannism is not a person at all, and cannot be well personified. But, lest this criticism be deemed unsound, we will place the subject in as fair a light as it is possible; "*ultra Hahnemannism*" means "extreme measures of Hahnemannism;" but as Hahnemannism does not embrace any measures whatever, to attach the word *ultra* to it, is downright absurdity.

The other branch of the sentence is, to our mind, a remarkable admission, which Prof. B. either wrote carelessly or he should receive due praise for his frankness. That to which we allude reads, "Eclecticism appears more congenial to the American mind." Now, we do not deny, that under the Allopathic school education and practice, Eclecticism is more agreeable to the minds of our people; and being so, then it must be taught on the principle of policy. This we should judge is the meaning; the American mind is more familiar with Allopathic doctrines and practice; and Eclecticism in its practice is so similar, that it is more congenial to our minds than Homœopathy. This, we admit, is true to some extent. But in what consists the objection to it? It is, that the popular mind, because it is full of error on a particular subject, should be taken advantage of, not only to perpetuate in it those errors, but to make them subservient to the triumph, if possible, of a party whose cry is "freedom," "liberality," opposition to "bigotry," all of which, as these terms are employed by parties, have a very limited application in America, even in the medical profession.

A FEW NOTES ON A FEW MEDICINES.

BY DR. CHAPMAN.

Ammonium Carbonicum.

A young gentleman, about 15 years old, had been in the house and in familiar intercourse with his two sisters, who had measles in a very

mild form. His parents were anxious that he too should have the disease and be done with it; but he did not sicken, nor show any signs of its having affected him. After a few weeks he went to school. In a little while his tutor observed that he exhibited unusual lassitude, and had lost his spirit for his studies, and for the vigorous exercises of his schoolfellows. He was in consequence sent home.

His parents were anxious about him, and were told by the physician that he was probably suffering from latent measles. He was a delicate youth with a very feeble circulation. He continued to be listless and unlike his former self; quiet and passive, instead of being vivacious and active; sauntering and lolling on a chair or sofa, instead of running and leaping; indifferent to books, instead of being a vigorous reader.

Some three months after his exposure to measles he suddenly lost a great deal of bright red blood from the right nostril. On being seen his pulse was found to be very quick, with a good deal of tension; the skin was very hot; he made no complaint, and said he felt no pain nor uneasiness. Aconite and Arnica were given to him.

The epistaxis continued to occur daily for four successive days, and to a great and even alarming extent. Several remedies were tried, but there was no guide for the choice of a medicine beyond the color of the blood, and the febrile heat. As the warmth of the skin was general over the whole body, the proposition to have the nostril plugged was resisted, that measure being kept in reserve if there should be coldness of the extremities, and collapse. The bleeding was thought to be critical; the opinion of latent measles was still maintained; and what was felt to be a just apprehension was expressed that if the nostril was plugged dangerous cerebral symptoms might ensue, and perhaps convulsions, and perhaps death.

The parents of the youth had confidence in the opinion of their medical attendant, and abided by his decision; and as he was the heir, not only of their hopes, but of a very worthy name and of great possessions, this confidence of his parents increased the sympathies of the practitioner and his anxiety for the result.

The bleeding was not diminished by the means hitherto used, but on visiting the patient on the fourth day of the bleeding, he complained, for the first time, of severe pain in the forehead, and of a sensation that the brain was forcing itself out just above the nose. About a grain of the third trituration of Ammonium Carbonicum was given to him. One of his serious bleedings had occurred just before. In three or four hours after he was covered with measles. The disease was of a benignant kind; he had only a few doses of Pulsatilla, and in a few days was convalescent. He recovered his strength after the great loss of blood he had suffered, much sooner than could have been expected, and has continued well from that time, three years ago, to this.

Bleeding from the nose, sense of oppressive fulness in the forehead, pushing sensation as if the forehead would burst, and the brain would protrude through the forehead, are among the characteristic symptoms of Ammonium Carbonicum.

A few days after the successful termination of this case, the same practitioner was consulted, by letter, for a farmer's daughter in Ireland. She was represented as anæmious, reduced in flesh, very pallid, and very dejected; she was a young woman of twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, and had been subject for several years to repeated and copious bleedings from the nose. The only characteristic symptom, that was mentioned in the letter of consultation, for the choice of a remedy for the epistaxis was that it was brought on by washing the face and hands in the morning. Ammonium Carbonicum, of the third trituration, was sent to her. After a few doses the bleeding of the morning recurred no more, and she speedily recovered her strength, her flesh, her color, and her spirits. Enquiries were lately made about this case, and it was ascertained that the cure was permanent.

Ammonium Carbonicum is very useful for the appropriate cases of coryza, especially in hysterical females, or in feeble or aged persons.

This remedy is very valuable in many cases of hysteria, and especially for some of its strange and anomalous forms in which other complaints are, as it were, simulated; but especially where there is great excitement of the sexual organs of the female, swelling, itching, and burning of the pudenda, irritation of the clitoris, and acrid leucorrhœa, with the sensation of excoriation or ulceration in the vulva; for hysterical syncope, for instance, preceded by vehement palpitation of the heart, and great precordial distress; for chlorotic listlessness and lethargy, and utter dejection of mind, it seems very suitable, and particularly so if there are the local sufferings adverted to.

The brain and the heart often seem seriously compromised in women, in whom there is that erethistic condition of the sexual organs; but as soon as this condition is relieved, the seeming affections of the brain or heart at once disappear. In these and other cases of the like kind of hysterical perturbations, where other disorders are simulated, Ammonium Carbonicum is a very useful remedy.

Acidum Hydrocyanicum.

A lady who maintains herself by teaching drawing, about 30 years of age, suffered from nervous exhaustion, the result of over work and anxiety. She had no appetite; the circulation was languid; her symptoms were such as are generally comprehended under the term "nervous dyspepsia." But she had one very remarkable symptom; sometimes she would be forced, she said, to scream out suddenly, she knew not why; this scream was followed by faintness, sometimes even swooning; she at such times had, either before or subsequently

to faintness, tightness of the chest, and acute pain as of spasms of the heart. She was sometimes wakened out of her sleep with this scream and these overpowering sensations.

As this scream seemed to resemble very much that of those poisoned with prussic acid, this remedy was prescribed for her in the third dilution. She had no return of the screams, the perturbation of her heart was relieved, and also her dyspeptic symptoms. Three months after the commencement of her treatment she reported herself as comparatively well.

This case is reported, not only on account of its individual interest, but as suggestive of the use of Hydrocyanic Acid for Angina. During the last few years many deaths have been reported in the newspapers which were said to have been from "spasm of the heart," and in many of these cases there were no appearances of organic lesion of the heart on the examination of the bodies after death.

Some of these cases are most interesting on account of the value of the lives of those who perished in that manner. The illustrious Dr. Arnold, so conspicuous for his love of truth, his liberality, his mental endowments, his personal character, and, above all, that he was the first person who propounded the doctrine and acted on it, that the mission of a school-master was to be a "missionary" for boys, was one of these. He had no organic disease; he died from "spasm of the heart," as it is called. Some hours elapsed between his first seizure and that which closed his life. There was time here for the interposition of specific medicine.

Another instance was the recent one of Mr. Horace Twiss, the biographer of Lord Eldon, and otherwise a very noticeable man. Five months elapsed between his first seizure and the final one. Lord George Bentinck is a third instance; but he died of his first attack, alone, and remote from aid of any kind. He who had moved the senate with his fervor, and conciliated the nation by his honesty, died suddenly in a field, unnoticed and unregarded. Such is the vanity of human greatness, of wealth, station, distinction, and renown.

Hydrocyanic Acid might be also useful for threatened pulmonary apoplexy.

It is well known that it has been recommended by Montagk as one of the remedies for Asiatic cholera, especially for the apoplectic condition that is found towards the termination of some of these cases. As it may be interesting, the principal appearances that have been, at different times, found on the necrotomy of these who have died from this poison, are transcribed:—

"The muscles are darker than usual; the brain is dotted with bluepoints and is congested. The ventricle turgid with blood. Effusion of blood under the skull; the dura mater covered with a thick, black, bloody layer. The mucous membrane of the stomach is red, with bloody streaks, especially towards the orifices; its villous coat is of a reddish-brown color, and

can be easily detached. This is also remarked of the villous coat of the duodenum. The villous coat of the entire intestinal canal is covered with reddish mucus; as far as the ascending colon, congested blood-vessels. A quantity of fluid, dark, violet-colored blood in the liver, spleen, and kidneys. The bile is dark blue, blood in the trachea, violet color of the larynx, trachea, and of the œsophagus through its whole tract. The lungs are of the same color, and filled with violet-colored blood. The lungs denser and heavier than natural, reddish, dotted with black points, filled with a black-blue blood of an oily consistence. The right ventricle and left auricle of the heart are filled with blood. No serum in the pericardium, nor in the chest. The arterial blood looks like liquified liver. The blood is of a thick, greasy, oily consistence, not coagulated anywhere, of a dark blue-black color."

Acidum Benzoicum.

A beautiful girl of 15, from her infancy to the age of adolescence, had been in the habit of wetting her bed; in all other respects she seemed perfectly well. Benzoic Acid, in the second and third triturations, was given to her, and was speedily and permanently efficacious. In many other cases of enuresis in children, the effect has been equally beneficial.

It seems to have a specific action in relation to the urinary organs where there is irritability of the bladder. It is said to obviate the various depositions resulting from the excess of uric acid, and so to be effectual in preventing calculus in the bladder. It is thought to be especially indicated for those who suffer from the gouty diathesis.

It also seems indicated in syphilitic gonorrhœa, where there is a chancre, of no very malignant character, with gonorrhœa. The urine, in such cases, is of a very dark color, and is very strongly scented.

It has been used, with advantage, in nephritic colic, when the same characteristics of the urine have been observed.

It is well worthy of study in reference to cases in which the urinary organs are affected; in short, in many complaints in which the urine has the characteristics mentioned above, this remedy would probably be found very useful.

Acidum Nitricum.

Six years ago a lady was suffering from dysentery: she was of a very dark complexion, was much depressed in spirits, and there was every reason to suppose that the liver was inactive. There was great tenesmus, and what is vulgarly called "neediness"—frequent desire for evacuation, with unsuccessful effort. This was preceded by colic. Various remedies, and among them, merc. cor. had been given without apparent benefit. Nitric acid, in the third dilution, was given to her, and the effect was immediate: she very speedily recovered.

The colic preceding the stool, itching of the rectum, and hepatic disorder seem to be indication for its use in diarrhœa and dysentery.

In cases of chronic diarrhœa it has been found of great advantage; also in sufferings from the abuse of mercury, and in aphthous affections, for which mercury in large doses had been given.

Acidum Phosphoricum.

The writer has used this remedy in cases of milky urine in children, of which he has seen many instances, with immediate effect; under its use the urine has speedily become natural in appearance, and the children who were cachectic recovered flesh and health. In the "diabetes chylosus" of Hoffman, a disease not infrequent in some parts of the West Indies, it would probably be specific.

He has found it very useful in the exhaustion from onanism, venereal excesses, and nocturnal pollutions; and no less in the cases of those who will not believe that the brain is not brass, and continue to overtask it. Senators, literary and professional men are frequently the victims of this kind of exhaustion.

Arnica Montana.

The following case is very illustrative of many of the pathogenetic effects of this medicine:

The patient thus describes the commencement of his sufferings: "I went to bed languid and exhausted; my sleep was much disturbed, and I awoke six or seven times, each time from dreaming that I was dying and that my bed was surrounded by my friends, assembled to take their last leave of me. On the following day I had intense headache, which was accompanied with a feeling of great weight and heaviness in the eyes, and a sensation of oppression and drooping in the eyelids, as if they could not be raised. The left wrist was powerless for half an hour, with the feeling generally that I could not use my arms. I had the sensation of an oppressive weight at the upper part of the chest, with a feeling of constriction in the throat. In walking I was feeble, as if I had been suddenly blighted with old age; this was on the second day.

"My subsequent sensations were, a want of power in both ankles, with a feeling of a heavy weight on each instep. There was in my throat, as it were, the sound of a subdued whistle. There was a feeling at the upper part of my head as though the brain was sore and tender. There was a total want of appetite for ten days, during which time I loathed the very sight of food. I suffered from a constant dry cough, which shook the whole frame. I felt as if I was bruised over the whole body. The *testes* felt hard, and there was swelling and tenderness in them. The thighs were of a livid color, with blue and yellowish marks, presenting the appearance of a "black and blue" eye, as it is called. There was also the sensation of a great weight across the lower

part of the loins, and a feeling of being drawn in, as if a cord was tightly drawn across. I had all the while a longing desire to be in the free open air of the country."

The victim in this case had been making an *opodeldoc* of Arnica, to the influence of which, in any and every way, he is peculiarly susceptible. He is lymphatic, and leads a sedentary life.

During the first two or three days there were, ever and anon, a few patches on the face, and especially the forehead, disappearing and recurring, which resembled the arnica rash, with dullness and pain of the head; repugnance to food, which lasted during the whole illness; eructations; pains in the limbs as from a bruise; loss of strength, and of all sense of health; the sensation of being good for nothing. Some coryza.

After a few days the larynx and trachea became affected. He had a dry, short and hacking cough. He had only camphor and ignatia up to this time.

The chest then became affected; he had pains over the thorax, stitches with cough, which increased the pain; aching pains of the chest; a great deal of hypochondriacal anxiety; there was then great tightness of the chest, with difficulty of respiration. He had phosphorus.

He had been suffering with this progress of Arnica symptoms about a fortnight, when he was, one night, overtaken with great cardiac distress; stitches in the cardiac region; faintness; feeble, hurried, and variable pulse; irregular rhythm of the heart; the horror of instant death.

Aconite and arsenicum were given to him. In a week after he went for a few days into the country; but it was fully a month from the commencement of his sufferings from Arnica, before he was delivered from this medicinal disease.

The effects on the mind and disposition were no less remarkable than those on the body. He is naturally cheerful, kindly, genial; but throughout this arnicated perturbation of his organism, he was downcast, waspish and peevish. He is naturally very sensitive; and this keen sensitiveness of the mind was greatly exasperated. He had more or less hypochondriacal anxiety through the whole of his illness.

Of the effect of Arnica in mechanical injuries, nothing need be said.

In some cases of fever, and some of dyspepsia, the reports of its efficacy have been fully verified.

In cases of hæmoptysis, and epistaxis, it has been found of great benefit.

In cases of gout and rheumatism it has been given internally and applied topically with signal advantage.

For the after-pains of puerperal women, given internally, and applied topically, it has been found most useful.—*Br. Jour. Hom.*

(To be continued.)

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

This Institution is now regularly organized, as may be seen by its advertisement in another column of this Journal. We have conversed with students who attended the course of lectures in 1848-9. and they expressed entire satisfaction of the faculty and their mode of teaching. It will be perceived that a more complete course of lectures on all the branches of medicine and surgery is not likely to be delivered in any other college in this country. Those of the faculty with whom we are measurably acquainted, we do not doubt, are qualified for the duties they have undertaken. The Homœopathic Medical College of Pennsylvania must be sustained; for, the interest of our school and of every practitioner of our art is more or less identified with its prosperity. From this college we may expect the pure stream of medical truth to flow; and hundreds of young men may here quench their thirst for a genuine medical science and art.

It affords us a high degree of gratification that we have a medical school of our own; and that it is no longer necessary for students of medicine to be deprived of the opportunity of thoroughly learning the doctrine and practice of that great luminary in medicine—Hahnemann. In this college there are men who are not only learned in all that has heretofore pertained to accomplished physicians and surgeons; but they also understand the science and are skilled in the practice of Homœopathia. After a while, when the graduates of this institution begin to move among the people in the practice of their profession, the diploma from the Homœopathic college will command a degree of confidence that has never been secured by any similar establishment in our country. The Faculty have it in their power to accomplish this most desirable object, and from our knowledge of them, we believe they will secure it.

Homœopathic physicians should by all means give their influence in favor of the college under notice, and if they do so, its success will be satisfactory to its warmest friends.

HOMŒOPATHY vs. QUACKERY.

We observe a letter in the New-York Commercial Advertiser, signed by Dr. Reese, Phy-

sician to the Bellevue Hospital, in which medical practitioners on the Homœopathic system, are stigmatized as "quacks" and unworthy the support of the public. So far as the individual opinion of the worthy Doctor is concerned we are silent, notwithstanding it comes to us backed up by the formidable title of "Physician to the Bellevue Hospital," but we are aware that he speaks the opinion of nearly the whole class of Allopathic practitioners, although the success of Homœopathy, in the treatment of diseases, since its first introduction, has been greater, by far, than that of any other system—the cause, no doubt, of their violent and unprincipled opposition. The truth of the business is, the people are beginning to see clearer and farther than they ever have before; they are fast discovering what is worthy of their support, and what is not, and consequently it requires more than an unusual degree of exertion to hold up the tottering systems of humbug in every sphere and profession. "Quacks," we believe, are persons not legally authorized to practise. How then, can Dr. Reese or any other Doctor, no matter how high or distinguished his official position, assert that Homœopathic physicians are quacks, when it is so notoriously known that the Homœopathic physicians are as "regularly educated" as the Allopathic, and have all received "regular" diplomas from established medical colleges. Most of them, too, having been first educated as Allopathists, and embracing Homœopathy after a careful and thorough study of both systems. What audacity, then, to denounce them as "quacks!" Rather let justice be done, and if there is anything in Homœopathy calculated to contribute to the sum of human knowledge or happiness, let it not be smothered up and hidden from sight, by the opposition and slanderous denunciation of interested and designing men.

The above is an editorial of the Republican and Argus, of Baltimore, Md. We saw the article in question in the Commercial, but hesitated to give it any attention. There need be no longer sensitiveness on the part of physicians of our school, on account of misrepresentations by Allopaths, not even where they call us by bad names. Our position, as Homœopaths, is such before the world, that we should run the risk of degrading ourselves by a grave notice of any common newspaper scribbler who may see fit to slander us, especially where notoriety is the object on the part of the aggressor. There is one thing that puzzled us; how it came to pass that so respectable a paper as the Commercial Advertiser should have admitted such an article into its columns. We can only account for it in one way; which is, that the report is true that Dr. Reese is a sort of medical editor of that paper. The article

will do no harm in this city, and we doubt if it will in Baltimore, as the author is well known in both cities.

CHOLERA IN CINCINNATI.

DRS. J. H. PULTE and B. EHLMANN, of Cincinnati, report that they treated homœopathically from the 1st of May to 1st of August, 1849, 1116 cases of Cholera, of which 538 exhibited the symptoms of vomiting, diarrhœa and cramps, including a great many (from 60 to 70) in a deep state of collapse—the balance (578) had the symptoms of vomiting and rice water discharges. Of the 1116—474 were Americans, and 642 Germans, including a few Irish; the mortality of the whole number was 35, of which 2 were Americans and 33 Germans. In the number of deaths they included all they attended even where called at too late a time to be of real use.

Besides the above cases they treated during the same period 1530 patients, affected mostly with diarrhœas, with rumbling in the bowels, or the first stage of cholera, and a great number of dysenteries, some of which were very malignant; also a good many with nervous fever. Of this number (1530) all were saved.

DYSENTERY.

In few diseases is the superiority of the Homœopathic practice more manifest than in dysentery. The Allopathic physician who investigates homœopathy, is not only delighted with the result of the treatment, but is also able to see the cause of the frequent failure and the great mortality of this disease under the old treatment. For the benefit of our Allopathic brethren, we will point out some of the causes of their failure to cure, and the tedious duration of many cases of this disease, under their treatment. In the first place they use some of the Homœopathic remedies, and use them in large doses, not yet having made the important discovery that such doses will aggravate the disease in many instances; and often have we known physicians, and have done it ourselves when practising allopathy, increase the quantity and frequency of the medicine to overcome the supposed increased severity of the disease, when we now well know that the very increased severity of the disease was but the natural effect of the medicine previously used. Calomel or blue pill is frequently given to dislodge supposed impurities from the bowels, and to "correct the secretions," and before this can be accomplished, in too many cases, the patient dies, and the physician, in the simplicity of his heart, sup-

poses it is from the disease, when in reality it is generally from the medicine used. We have often seen the millionth of a grain doses of mercury aggravate this disease so as to require to be given in smaller doses, discontinued, or even antidoted. We have treated, within the last few weeks, a large number of cases of dysentery, and when we have used mercury, we have rarely given more than the millionth of a grain at a dose, occasionally we have given the ten thousandth of a grain, but much more frequently but the decillionth, and yet we have derived all the benefit this remedy was capable of producing, without making our patients seriously worse in any case, and what has been very satisfactory to us, and we have reason to think to our patients, without producing any symptoms of mercurial disease. Our aim is not to physic our patients, nor to salivate, nor to stimulate the liver, but simply to cure the disease—the inflammation of the mucous membrane of the bowels—having done this the secretions will take care of themselves, and the bowels will move in due time of their own accord. Another reason why Allopathy so frequently fails, is owing to the liberal use of opium, especially with children, not unfrequently causing diseases of the brain or increasing the predisposition which exists, in protracted cases, to the head. Opium, although it may palliate the pain generally, prolongs the duration of the disease, its secondary action increasing the diarrhœa, and therefore should rarely be used in this disease. The last reason we shall notice why Allopathy is so unsuccessful in the treatment of this disease, is because she has not a sufficient number of remedies with which to meet the varying symptoms which arise in different cases; calomel, with the exception of ipecac., being the only remedy of any real value, and we have shown she does not even know how to use this; whereas Homœopathy has already from twenty-five to fifty remedies which are in constant use by Homœopathic physicians, as symptoms may require, in the treatment of dysentery.

Another very great advantage which Homœopathy has over Allopathy in the treatment of this disease, as in all other severe diseases, is the fact that her remedies are much more immediate in their action. A large share of the cases of dysentery we have treated here this season have been cured within from one to three days; some few have continued longer, but we are satisfied by our observations that the average duration of this disease, under Homœopathic treatment, is not half as long as under Allopathic, and the danger is almost nothing in comparison.—*Michigan Journal of Homœopathy*.

CHOLERA IN SANDUSKY CITY.

THE Michigan Journal of Homœopathy for August has an interesting letter from C. HASTINGS, M. D., of Sandusky City, dated

August 14th, 1849, giving an account of the Cholera in that place. We make a single extract, viz:

The attacks of many could be distinctly traced to fear, as the cause, and more to that of drugging, whose systems long have been saturated with camphor, opium and capsicum, taken with a view to prevent, little thinking that they were the best means to cause that which they wished to avert. As regards the prophylactic treatment, I would say that I know not of a single case that has proved fatal, and of but a few who have been in the least affected where the remedies have been used, and in systems free from crude drugs. Many have had recourse to them and have realized all that they expected, notwithstanding their close and arduous attentions on the sick and with the dead. Previous to the appearance of cholera in this city, I learned cholera was as universal as has been the cholera since; also, that it has been the harbinger to the same in many other places. Its character was mild and yielded readily to arsenicum, veratrum and elaterium, and now we find many like cases on its departure which yield to like treatment as readily.

In answer to your inquiry concerning our success, I would say that it has not been all that we could ask, still, compared with our rival school, it has been good. The number of patients that have been treated by us have been 250. These have been seen by us in all stages and in all conditions that the various systems of medicine could place them. Of this number and in this condition we have lost *twelve* only, and when we scan the list, and find those who relied wholly on homœopathic treatment, we find the number 188, and of these only six have died. Many of these cases presented the most severe symptoms, such as small and feeble pulse, cold and shrivelled skin, tongue white and clammy, a free flow of saliva, suppression of urine, severe purging and vomiting, cramps, &c.

The remedies that we have used have been ipecac., arsenicum, phosphorus, cuprum, veratrum and nux vomica, of the low dilutions mostly, and have been given as the various symptoms of the disease might require. In a few cases we have used sulph., tartar emetic and aconite with marked benefit. On the first appearance of cholera here, cold drinks, on the recommendation of Drs. Humphrey and Joslin, were freely allowed, but we soon found that no benefit, if not a direct injury, was the result; they then were entirely withheld and warm drinks were freely given, and warm applications applied, the good results of which certainly have justified the procedure.

Dr. C. L. Merriman, in a letter dated Jackson, August 15th, 1849, and addressed to the Editors of the *Mich. Jour. of Homœopathy*, says:

The excitement here in Jackson in favor of

Homœopathy, amounts to a perfectly wild enthusiasm. I address you to learn if there is within the bounds of your acquaintance an experienced, scientific, and practical Homœopathic physician who can be procured to come to my assistance. I am willing to guarantee a business that shall be entirely satisfactory to such a man.

You can scarcely imagine my anxiety on account of the circumstances under which I am placed. I have on hand from twenty to thirty patients at present, and I am rejecting daily about the same number. Many of these I have taken from the hands of the Allopathic physicians after the friends, and in some cases the physicians, have despaired of their recovery. Among these latter I am happy to state I have had thus far the most marked success.

—
Providence, August 9, 1849.

DR. KIRBY:—

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed I hand you one dollar, amount of my subscription for A. J. of H., Vol. 4.

I have but one fault to find with the Journal—which is: it comes to hand but once a month. I should be pleased to see it once a week, and would willingly advance my subscription to a price that would effect so desirable a result.

Respectfully yours,

R. RHODES.

If all the Homœopathic physicians in our country would subscribe for the Amer. Jour. of Homœopathy, we could afford to issue it weekly, at the same price; or if those who now subscribe would send us three subscribers of laymen, which they could do in a week if they would, then we could publish it once in a week. Shall it be done?

—
Dr. G. Stewart, of New Albany, Indiana, writes to us under date of August 28th, 1849, "As the cholera is the engrossing theme, I will just say that I have prescribed *Veratrum* in a great many cases of *cholérine*, and in no case has it failed. *Phos.* and *Phos. Acid* did not do as well.

I have treated twenty-three genuine cases of cholera; of which three died. Two of these I pronounced past recovery when I first saw them; the other one I had some hope of saving when I first saw her. The pulse could be felt distinctly until ten minutes before her death.

In the above cases which recovered, *Veratrum* controlled the vomiting, diarrhœa, de-

pression, shrinking of the features, coldness and cramps of the extremities. *Camphor*, I found suitable for the coldness and cramps of the stomach, cold clammy sweat, dizziness and pain of the head. *Cuprum Metal.* was appropriate for cramps of the breast, stomach, bowels, or general crampness, if they came on before the ice coldness and clammy sweat, and pulselessness." We have not the honor of a personal acquaintance with Dr. Stewart, but the above observations show him to be a workman in our school, of whom we need not be ashamed. We understand that Dr. S. has practised Homœopathy for the last six years, having previously practised Allopathy sixteen years.—*Ed.*

—
Dr. Louis Dodge, of Adrian, Mich., writes to us under date of August 17th, 1849, and says: "I agree with the sentiments you advanced in the August number of your Journal in relation to the Eclectic College in Cincinnati, and believe that we can sustain one (if not more) good College. I was particularly invited by letter of the Committee to attend the meeting on the 12th of July at Cleveland, not having been informed of the meeting on the 26th of June, nor of its result until I arrived at the one in July, nor did they inform any of the members of the Michigan Institute of Homœopathy, although its annual session was held on the 27th of June, and we were all interested in that question, consequently we think the movement hasty and not eminently adapted to promote pure Homœopathy."

The stand we have taken in opposition to any union of Homœopaths with the Eclectic College of Cincinnati is not only approved by Dr. Dodge, but several of our most prominent men of this city have expressed to us personally their entire approbation of our course. We have a College of our own in Philadelphia, and let us sustain that, and when a necessity for another arises let us organize it.

—
☞ COMPLAINTS reach us too often from subscribers that they do not receive this Journal. The fault is not with us, but with the Post Offices. We will endeavor to supply deficient numbers. We have a large list on hand to supply which we shall see attended to in a few days.

OPIUM EATING IN ENGLAND.

It is said that this pernicious practice seems to be alarmingly on the increase in England, and is evidently extending to all ranks of society. By the reports of the Board of Trade down to the 5th of May, 1848, it is shown that the consumption of opium has been doubled in England in one year. The imports of this drug for the past year amounted to 24,929 lbs. The paupers in the alms-houses are said to be much addicted to the fatal indulgence of opium-eating. A still greater proportionate increase than the above in the use of opium, was known immediately to follow the Washington temperance movement in New England. This is a hard lesson for temperance men. Avoid ALL stimulants, if you desire to become truly, permanently temperate, and proof against temptation to strong drink.

LAUGHTER.

Without it our faces would have been rigid, hyena-like; the iniquities of our heart, with no sweet antidote to work upon them, would have made the face of the best among us a horrid, husky thing, with two sullen, hungry lights at the top—for foreheads would then have gone out of fashion—and a cavernous hole below the nose. Think of a babe without laughter—as it is, its first intelligence! The creature shows the divinity of its origin and end by smiling upon us. Yes; smiles are its first talk with the world, smiles the first answer that it understands. And then, as worldly wisdom comes upon the little thing, it crows, it chuckles, it grins, and shakes in its nurse's arms, or in waggish humor, playing bo-peep with the breast, it reveals its high destiny, declares to him with ears to hear the hiredom of its immortality. Let materialists blaspheme as gingerly and acutely as they will; they must find confusion in laughter. Man may take a triumph; and stand upon his broad grins; for he looks around the world, and his innermost soul, sweetly tickled with the knowledge, tells him that he, of all creatures, laughs. Imagine, if you can, a laughing fish. Let man, then, send a loud ha! through the universe, and be reverently grateful for the privilege.—*Douglas Jerrold.*

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Session of 1849 50. Lectures will commence on the first Monday of October, and continue until the first of March ensuing, and will be delivered under the following arrangement.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, by CALEB B. MATTHEWS, M. D.

Homœopathic Institutes and the Practice of Medicine, by WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D.

Botany and Medical Jurisprudence, by SAMUEL FREEDLEY, M. D.

Clinical Medicine, by CHARLES NEIDHARD, M. D.
Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, by WALTER WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Physiology and Pathology, by ALVAN E. SMALL, M. D.

Chemistry and Toxicology, by MATTHEW SEMPLE, M. D.

Surgery, by FRANCIS SIMS, M. D.

Anatomy, by WILLIAM A. GARDINER, M. D.

Clinical instruction in Medicine and Surgery, given at the Dispensary connected with the College, daily.—Students who have attended one or more full courses of instruction in other medical schools, may become candidates for graduation, by attendance upon one full course in this school.

Amount of fees for a full course of lectures, \$100,00

Matriculation fee, paid only once, - - 5,00

Practical Anatomy, - - - - 10,00

Graduation fee, - - - - 30,00

Students who have attended two full courses in other schools, - - - - 30,00.

The Commencement will take place early in March.

W. WILLIAMSON, M. D., *Dean.*

No. 80 North 11th St., Phila.

MEDICAL LECTURES.

The undersigned proposes to deliver a regular course of lectures (daily) on the Practice of Medicine, to commence on the 5th day of November next, and to end on the 1st of March following.

The main object of these lectures will be to teach the science and art of Homœopathia; at the same time, it is intended to present somewhat minutely, a history of medicine from the time of Hippocrates to the present period.

It is desirable that those who intend to practice the healing art according to the system of Hahnemann, should avoid the too common error of entering upon that duty, before having thoroughly studied it. This cannot be accomplished so well as by frequent familiar lectures, together with opportunities of seeing the practice in various diseases. Those who attend this course of lectures, may have the privilege of a daily attendance at the New-York Homœopathic Dispensary, and examine the cases "treated there by twelve Physicians of the Homœopathic School," for which there will be no charge.

The lectures will be delivered at the Dispensary Room, No. 58 Bond-street.

Tickets for the course, \$15.

Those who enter the office of the undersigned during the lectures, and avail themselves of whatever may be there afforded them in aid of a knowledge of Homœopathia, will be charged \$15 extra.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

No. 762 Broadway.

New-York, August 1, 1849.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

Subscriptions for this Journal will be received as heretofore, by Otis Clapp, Boston, Mass., by J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Rademacher, Phila.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 4.

New-York, October, 1849.

NO. 6.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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This JOURNAL will be issued on the first of each month at One Dollar a year, in advance. City subscribers will be regularly served at their residences by sending their names to 762 Broadway.

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All communications must be addressed, (post paid) to the Editor, 762 Broadway.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW-YORK, OCTOBER, 1849.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

THE success of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera, dysentery, and cholera infantum, has fixed the attention of thousands upon Hahnemann's system of medicine, who previously had not thought it of any value, and passed it by under the influence of the misrepresentations of Allopaths, as a thing which begins and ends in a day: also, many Allopathic physicians have lately ceased their opposition to Homœopathia, and allow it to be known that they regard it with favor, because of the overwhelming evidence that Homœopathia is perfect in its science, and the most safe and certain in its art.

Homœopathia has stood the test of frowns, of sneers, of ridicule, of misrepresentations, of lies, of legal enactments, of coroners' inquests, and of the most rigid experiments in the cure of the sick, all of which has aided to fix it as the only true system of medicine. What course will hereafter be pursued by the opposition, we are not advised; but it is probable that the

senior members of the profession will act as they have done, and contend for the preservation of Allopathia in an entire state, undisturbed by innovations; but the junior members will gradually yield to the force of truth, for, owing to their educational prejudices, few will be able to at once renounce old medical doctrines, however absurd and pernicious. We know many who at this present time are struggling to get free, that they may enjoy the full gratification of a desire for a reasonable medical science, as a guide in the healing art. The former we have long since abandoned, never expecting they would be converted from the errors of their doctrines and practice; but the latter we do not doubt will feel not only at liberty, but under obligation to study with care and diligence those immortal doctrines which were put forth by the illustrious Hahnemann. The people are becoming so thoroughly convinced of the safety and certainty of Homœopathia, that they are kept from renouncing Allopathia only by the force of the personal influence of the senior members of the profession. This state of things cannot continue long, and the junior members, even were they so disposed, could not exert anything like the influence of the seniors; consequently, as it is in Vienna, so it will be in this country, that a young physician will not be employed who is not thoroughly instructed in Homœopathia. This period is rapidly approaching, in fact, it is much nearer than is generally supposed; for even now, there is not in all this great country a location where an Allopath is needed; but there are urgent calls for hundreds of Homœopaths to supply our cities, towns, villages and country places. This demand must be met, and it will be met, for our enterprising and talented young men cannot but perceive that their interest in honor and emolument is safe when they comply with the wishes of the American people. Therefore, whether it be the love of science, or the

love of money, or both, which actuates the young physician, he must come into close communion with the Homœopathic school of medicine. If he stands as an Allopath, he will be regarded as holding doctrines which are false and pernicious; if he takes his position midway between Allopathia and Homœopathia, and denominates himself an Eclectic, he will be looked upon as without principles, and being a mongrel in medicine, he will be justly suspected of empiricism, and of treating the sick by a series of doubtful experiments, for he relies alone on a kind of loose experience, without a law to govern him. But he who is a pure Homœopathist, who has thoroughly mastered those immutable laws which constitute its science, and faithfully employs them in the cure of diseases, will secure the confidence and the esteem of the people, an honorable name among his colleagues, and an ample supply of all reasonable wants, generously bestowed for acknowledged valuable services.

The signs of the times disclose to us that the views we have taken of the subjects of this article, are not the vagaries of an enthusiastic mind, for they are becoming the common topics of conversation among physicians, and among the people. These very conversations furnished us mainly with what we have here written; and we have not any fear that we shall be charged with extravagant hope or confidence, or an undue heat of imagination, except by members of our profession over forty years of age, and those they control.

The London Correspondent of the Commercial Advertiser of this city, who is, we have understood, one of the Editors of the London Times, writes under date of August 17, 1849:

"A meeting for the purpose of discussing the nature and treatment of cholera, was held last evening, by one of the large medical societies of London. The speakers were practitioners of repute and experience, but they all differed as to the best means to be used. Dr. Rees was 'free to confess' that he had seen a great deal of cholera, and had tried several plans, but he did not believe any one possessed any advantage over the other. A Dr. Hughes, toward the close of the meeting, after many of the gentlemen had given the results of their personal experience, said, 'he knew very little of the subject matter of discussion when he entered the room; and now he knew less. All the gentlemen who had spoken appeared to hold different opinions.'"

"Among other information recently circulated in consequence of the prevalence of the malady, has been a report of carefully authen-

ticated cholera cases treated by the medical officers of the Edinburgh Homœopathic Dispensary. The number of cases was 236, and their proportion of deaths was only 1 to 3, while the cases treated during the same time under the ordinary method were 876, out of which the proportion of deaths was as 2 to 1."

The differences of opinion among Allopaths in regard to the treatment of cholera, is not peculiar to that disease; take any one, or all of the more severe diseases, and the same differences exist. Many medical gentlemen can call to mind, that after listening for hours to discussions in medical societies, they could have exclaimed with Dr. Hughes—"I now know less." The fact as above related, from London, together with similar ones, quite familiar to us in this country, which every now and then get into the daily papers, go to make up some of the signs, which show that the proud look of Allopathia must come down; and the exorbitant claims of rank on the part of her adherents, their pretended dignity, their proud contempt of others, their ridiculous conceitedness, and their daring presumption, will not be much longer endured by the people, whose interest is at stake.

THE REPETITION OF THE MEDICINAL DOSES.

BY DR. GRIESSELICH.

(Concluded from page 63.)

By reviewing the statements of the above named physicians, we find all of them endeavoring to ascertain fixed rules, whereby the repetition of the doses is to be governed; in consequence of the extreme variety of life, and its expressions, it is however impossible to give fixed rules. Every attempt to do it, will always continue to be extremely imperfect, and reminds one of the aim of the modern Lycurgus, to provide for all cases which may possibly happen; to designate by paragraphs, with the punishments annexed, all crimes, all real or fancied transgressions and offences, which the judge has only to consult in the case in question. As the legislators cannot, even with all their learning and imagination, determine beforehand *all* cases, and are obliged to leave a number unwillingly to the judicial discernment, so also are the doctrinists placed in relation to the laws of the repetition of the doses; it is also here evident, *that the individual case will be taken into special consideration in all its peculiarities*, and that which is in one *most beneficial*, is in another not at all so, or in a much less degree. A certain portion of physicians consequently make such avowals, and

hold entirely to general definitions, so that it is left to the judgment of the practitioner what to do in a particular case. *And it cannot be otherwise.* The physician is at the sick bed like a juryman; he gives the verdict, as to the state then existing, and applies the general law; and this is for a Homœopathic practitioner no other than the law "*similia similibus curantur*;" the first question will be, which *remedy* is adapted, and afterwards in what *dose*; and with this last is the repetition connected.

With the medicinal doses we intend to make a certain impression upon the unhealthy organism; it sounds, to be sure, agreeably to say that the impression is to be just so great as to conquer the evil and be of no injury to the organism, not so great as that the medicinal impression should produce the latter result, and not so small as to be unable to accomplish the former. Were all organisms equally balanced, one precisely like the other; were all diseases of a uniform character, no external interventions and no internal excitements existing, then would all men obey the first indication, be warned by the first admonition, and upon the first medicinal dose would diseases disappear; as we, however, have not to do with ideals, it requires therefore many looks, hints, admonitions, warnings, and even punishments often, in order to gain the object, to educate men, to save them from moral infection and disease or to cure them of such. Thus is it with the so-called diseases.

We remarked that Hahnemann originally allowed, as a rule, *one* medicinal dose and this is by all means consistent; according to his idea he will, with the adapted Homœopathic remedy, produce a similar *contre disease*, which of course he cannot mean to *increase*.

As Hahnemann, however, was some time after convinced of the necessity of the repetition of the dose under adapted circumstances, he must have consequently undergone also a change in his views in relation to his original theory of *contre disease*. He pronounced *one dose* sufficient for children and sensitive persons, comparing the effect to that of admonition or punishment administered to sensitive persons at the *proper time*, thus inducing continued good behavior—a permanent duration of effect. As injurious as incessant scolding and mis-timed punishment would be in the one case, so would a repetition of the medicinal doses be in the other. The result in both is similar. If the improvement of a morally afflicted person stands still or retrogrades, then we have recourse to the means already proved to be effective—we repeat the dose of admonition, warning, or punishment; as, moreover, every repetition, in all instances loses its charms, we are fond of alterations in repeating the dose; at one time it must be stronger, at another weaker, as the case requires, and as we are able from the symptoms to perceive the necessity of a change.

There is nothing absurd in the statement,

that, in this or that case, a remedy has extended its beneficial effect to thirty, forty, and more days—there is nothing absurd even in the acknowledgment, that the salutary effect of a remedy lasted for fifty years, or during a whole generation; we must only understand correctly what the "*duration of effect*" is. This, however, is the real absurdity, that such definitions in relation to the duration of effect have been put before the world *as medical rules*. Many a man has burned his fingers *once* in his life, and *never after*—he was cured during his life by his pain, (moral disease, self-illusion;) while others burn daily their fingers, and are nevertheless no wiser, but even the reverse. It is so with the common diseases, which frequently become the more obstinate, the more they are bombarded with medicinal doses of the same remedy.

The duration of effect, or time of termination of a medicinal dose of the adopted remedy, begins with the moment of incorporation, and lasts to the period of visible improvement; then is its work accomplished, and the improvement is the sign that the faculties of the organism have returned into the old track. We can speak only of the duration of effect of a medicinal dose in general, but not of a *remedy* in general; it is incorrect to say of *Arsenic*, that its effect lasts thirty or forty days, as we can just as well say it lasts ten minutes, or five years; small doses operate differently from large doses, and terminate sooner in acute diseases than in chronic. In violent cases of sporadic cholera, *Arsenic* can be given every ten minutes, of 1 gr., Nos. 1, 3, 6; a slow poisoning by *Arsenic*, however, can continue for years.

This incontestible rule must be adhered to, that *the dose of the properly selected, adapted remedy be not renewed as long as a beneficial effect is manifested by it*; if Hahnemann insists upon this, he is *perfectly in the right*. There is no doubt that a sort of humdrum way gained ground in relation to the repetitions; its apology is to be found partly in the unperceived transfer by Hahnemann of his definitions, in regard to the duration of effects, from *chronic* afflictions, with which he was thoroughly acquainted, to the acute diseases, which latter he had not for many years observed at the bed-side.

Although we now readily perceive that a single dose of the proper remedy acts instantaneously, and expels the disease, we can just as easily be deceived in our expectations, if we wait the duration of effect for weeks to come.

Much, (it is true,) but not every thing may be accomplished by the repetition of the same medicinal doses, and for this reason the *change* of the doses, the *interim remedies*, were suggested, of which we hereafter will speak.

The repetition of the medicinal doses is *an evident and very essential improvement in the application of the remedies*, but it is no "*factotum*," fills not up the many voids, and we ought not to overlook, by means of it, the above-

mentioned main maxim, viz.: to remain a spectator *as long as the improvement progresses*. Whoever cannot do this will deprive himself of many a victory; (it is necessary to know when a Fabius has to be cunctator, and when a marshal.) By repeating the medicinal doses, our object is to retain *the unhealthy organism in a condition best disposed to the restorative process*; this degree or point of disposition has been long called by physicians "*saturation*." By the repetition, we make the impression "*more durable*;" such is our object.

It is to be taken for granted, *that the faults made in the magnitude of the dose will sometimes be amended by the repetition*, as not until then does that effect appear, which we originally by the *first more adapted and powerful* dose ought to have produced.

How long a time is it advisable to be a spectator and await the effect? It is here entirely useless to search for rules. In regard to the treatment of *chronic diseases*, which are not connected with very urgent, especially painful symptoms, it can, as a general rule, be admitted, that the repetition is to be made at longer intervals, *after a dose of the adapted remedy has been given without a perceptible effect*. It is perfectly consonant in such complaints to repeat the dose, if the first dose (after waiting a certain length of time, which in the various forms of diseases is very different,) has produced no effect, and the proper selection of the remedy is beyond a doubt; as soon, however, as any effect appears, *evidently* belonging to the remedy, to suspend *even for days and weeks*, nothing can by this course be lost; and the blind powders, as well as water with some juice, are *indispensable* to satisfy the patient.

It is generally advisable in chronic diseases, *that there should be longer intermissions between the doses*; in acute diseases the premature repetition is not so positively injurious; on the contrary, by waiting too long, time, which is very valuable in acute diseases, is lost, as such affections frequently deposit their "*products*" very rapidly.

The *change of the medicinal doses* is highly important, and mistakes are herein very often made. In acute diseases, the change of the doses is of great consequence; the individual case, however, must decide the physician *for the repetition on a reduced or enlarged scale*.

The repetition of the doses is of decided weight in diseases, when general or particular symptoms appear periodically, and whoever will, in acute diseases, await the so-called "*termination of effect*," will find himself very much deceived, will leave the patient in danger, when it can be evaded, and bring upon himself additional reproach.

The repeated attacks of acute diseases we must meet, if not with *severe*, yet with powerful antidotes, and renew the rapidly exhausted medicinal impression; frequently, *but with what degree of frequency, the periods of exacerbation must determine*.

In dysentery, diarrhœa, vomiting, cholera, it is best to give a dose after every discharge, however often it may take place; in colic, in face, teeth, and other aches of a periodical type, the dose must be renewed upon every return, and the same changed as soon as it ceases to be efficient, which is, at any rate, preferable to the immediate change of the remedy.

That a remedy can be its own antidote, is in accordance with published relations of experience. It is therefore probable, that in some instances the efficacy of a well-selected remedy can be destroyed by an inconsiderate repetition of the same. In this case, the original medicinal impression, as it were, by a "*supplementary effect*" of the new dose, will be changed, and even annihilated.—*Quar. Hom. Jour.*

A PRIORI RULES APPLICABLE TO HOMŒOPATHIA.

THE following considerations may invariably be relied upon as *a priori* proofs, or *signs*, that a discovery is founded in philosophic truth; *independently of the special evidence of any particular doctrine*.

1. That the assumed discovery shall have been before the public, with its alleged pretensions, from the period of a *quarter* to that of *half a century*.

2. That it shall be opposed to the reigning opinions of an influential corporate or professional body.

3. That it shall have encountered strong and long continued *opposition*, shall have been subjected to a *written controversy*; and have been, consequently, assailed by the logic and ridicule of the opposing party.

4. That its pretensions shall have been put down by *political power*.

5. That the same power shall, at a subsequent period, have *restored* it to its unfettered action.

6. That it shall have, gradually, gathered to itself a numerous *school*, from the body, the opinions and interests of which it specially affects; and that many of this school shall be distinguished by extraordinary capacity, and high moral character.

7. That within the period assigned, large masses of the public, not belonging to such body, shall, in the ordinary proportion of their different classes, have adopted as true, and acted upon the discovery in question.

8. That its doctrines shall have been adopted, not in one country only, but in many; hav-

ing found its way, more or less, wherever civilized society exists.

9. That at the *end* of the period assigned (1) the number of its adherents shall be greater than at any former part of it.

This *combination of a priori or transcendental* signs of truth, deduced from the history of philosophy, is strictly applicable to Homœopathy; and its opponents are challenged to show, throughout the entire range of that history, any scientific doctrine which, sustained by these signs, has, in the end, turned out to be *false*.

Signs 4—5. These might be omitted without much detriment to the argument. Both occurred, however, in Austria; with reference to Homœopathia.

Sign 6. It will not be denied that a large Homœopathic school *exists*. Amongst many others, not inferior in capacity and character, belonging to it, may be mentioned Professor Henderson, several years a very popular Professor of Pathology in the University of Edinburgh, and Professor D'Amador, Professor of the same branch in the University of Montpellier; a man of distinguished ability, and whose admirable essay on the power of invisible agents may be safely commended to the perusal of Allopathic scorners, as containing more than has, hitherto, been dreamed of in *their* philosophy.

Sign 7. Sixty thousand of the inhabitants of Philadelphia, have, within about 20 years, adopted the Homœopathic doctrine. Let but sufficient *time* and *numbers* be allowed, and general opinions and philosophic truth will, always, be found in agreement with each other.

Similar results have occurred in New-York and other large cities of the Union; in which, almost without exception, the Homœopathic practitioners have been regularly educated in the Allopathic schools. Some of them are, notoriously, of pre-eminent professional attainments. Could Henderson and D'Amador, together with these, possibly, be mistaken as to the merit of the two systems, *both* of which they *have*, but *one* of which the doctors of the old school, *to a man*, have *not* investigated and understood.

Signs 8—9. The doctors of that school, for obvious reasons, feel a disinclination to look into the Homœopathic branch of the history of medicine. From this cause they have remained ignorant, *grossly ignorant*, alike of its

proofs and progress; but the points under the present heads can be easily established.

JONATHAN BARBER, M. D.

Montreal, Sept. 14, 1849.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR.

The standard by which we determine what constitutes a physician of high standing has not been settled in this country. If we had, in America, kings, and queens, and princes, and royal bloods, then we suppose Physicians ordinary and extraordinary to these, would be looked upon as of high standing in the profession. Some among us are silly enough to regard a professorship in a college evidence of high standing; the time was, even in our day, when this could to some extent be relied on; but it is not so now, for latterly, when one is not able to get into practice and earn his living, his friends often successfully seek to have him appointed a professor; hence it is, that many of our professors are in the neighborhood of the least. There are those who think if a Doctor writes a book, he certainly is one of the great Doctors; making book-writing the test of greatness; or if one writes an article for a journal or for a newspaper, he certainly must know something, and should be set down as having a high standing in the profession. Our own opinion is, that he who cures the sick, soonest and safest, should have, in the estimation of all, the highest rank. This is our standard. Such are only found in the Homœopathic school.

A FEW NOTES ON A FEW MEDICINES.

BY DR. CHAPMAN.

(Concluded from page 76.)

Angustura.

This medicine, according to Noack and Trinks, has a remarkable action on the motor and spinal nerves. The two following cases exhibit its curative action in this respect:—

A lady, about 50 years old, oppressed with gloom, of a saturnine complexion, suffered much from pain in her spine, at the nape of the neck, and the sacrum especially; at either of these places the pain was much increased by pressure. She had great difficulty in walking, and seemed threatened with paralysis of the lower limbs. She had a sensation of tremulousness and uncasiness in the muscles of the neck.

Various means were used for her relief, with

little or no effect. *Angustura* was prescribed for her. This medicine has very materially relieved her. She is cheerful, the pain is much less, and she walks with much more ease and comfort.

Another lady, about the same age, was also threatened with paralysis of the lower limbs. There was considerable aggravation of her sufferings from a few doses of *angustura*, followed by amelioration. It is but just to say that she has, since that time, made rapid progress to entire recovery, which is likely to be complete, under the influence of Vital Magnetism, or Mesmerism, as it is more familiarly called.

Angustura seems well worth trying in cases of spinal irritation, and of opisthotonos.

Alumina.

Many children, almost from birth to their second year or upwards, are subject to constipation—not brought on by unwholesome diet, nor by aperients. This occurs if they are suckled, or if they are reared by hand. The mothers of such children are generally of a meagre, adust habit of body, who themselves require anti-psoric treatment. The constipation seems to depend on inactivity of the rectum. The evacuations are scanty, and expelled with difficulty. In such cases *alumina* has been given, and seemed to act best.

When the evacuations are white, in such cases, *aconite*, *china*, and *digitalis* have been given, as well as *alumina*.

Aloes.

A lady had dysentery after her confinement; as this occurred two or three days only after the birth of her child, and she was a very feeble, delicate person, it was very distressing. Various remedies were tried, with little benefit. As she felt very faint after each evacuation, or attempt at one, *aloes* was given her, and the disease at once gave way.

In a case of metrorrhagia it was given with happy effect. The "*hieropikra*," which chiefly consists of *aloes*, is the chief emmenagogue, used in the United States; and the emmenagogue pills in use in this country generally contain *aloes*.

In suitable cases it is one of the most appropriate remedies for piles, where the disease does not proceed from the abuse of this drug, and where there is no constitutional complication, but where there is burning in the rectum and tenesmus.

Ammoniacum.

A little boy, 7 years of age, had been vaccinated in his infancy; a few weeks after vaccination he began to suffer from eczema of one of his legs. This distressing disorder had grown with his growth. It was intercurrent with asthma; every now and then he had attacks of bronchitic asthma, perhaps two or three a year, but chiefly in the winter months. While he was asthmatic, his skin-disease receded; as soon as his breathing became natural, the af-

fection of the skin returned. It distressed him much: he scratched grievously, and his drawers were generally stained with blood. It may be here observed, parenthetically, that chronic skin-diseases may be often traced back to the period of vaccination in such a way as to show that the virus was communicated in that way.

In other respects this young gentleman seemed healthy. When he was seven years of age he had measles, from which six other children of the same family were suffering. It was very mild in all the cases but two. In the case of this boy, the attack was very severe; he had a good deal of fever, and great heat of skin; constant restlessness. The measles only partially thrown out. He had *Aconite*.

The leg affected by eczema became perfectly dry and wrinkled; the skin looked like shrivelled parchment. He was then covered over the whole body with the dark dots of the "*morbus maculosus*;" his fever much increased, and great anxiety. *Arsenicum* was then given to him.

On his being relieved of the fever, and the disappearance of these spots, the lungs became congested; dulness on both sides; great difficulty of breathing, and anxiety. Constant movement of the *alæ nasi*; the countenance dark, with the anxious and parched look characteristic of the pulmonary affection. No expectoration. For this state of things he had chiefly *phosphorus*, which seemed in some measure to keep the disease in check; but no beneficial progress was manifested. While yet suffering in this manner he had one of his attacks of asthma, and it was expected that his life would be extinguished. *Ammoniacum*, in the 2d dilution, was then given to him; a dose every hour at first, and afterwards at intervals of three hours. The effect was almost magical. In a few hours he breathed more freely, the constriction of his chest was relieved; he began to smile on those around him. The cutaneous affection of the leg re-appeared, and the case proceeded favorably to convalescence and health.

This will be found a very valuable addition to the remedies for pneumonia. It is used in the old-school practice as an expectorant, and it is advised that it be given with great caution, as it is apt to bring on pulmonary congestion.

One of our colleagues was called to see a case of angina, which supervened on the stopping of an old ulcer on the leg; he gave *ammoniacum*, the ulcer returned, and the angina ceased.

It has been recommended, but to be given with great caution, in hydrothorax: also for saburral colic, for diabetes, and bronchorrhea.

"Wibmer recommends *Ammoniacum* for weakness of digestion, and yet he states, in his *Materia Medica*, that it produces weakness of the digestive organs. J. W. Schwartz recommends it in amaurosis, and yet refers to Wichmann's observation, that *ammoniacum* has occasioned obscuration of sight. In com-

paring the physiological effects of Ammoniacum with the symptoms of the disease which the physicians of the old school have cured with that remedy, we shall find that those cures have all been effected in accordance with the principle, *Similia similibus curantur*."

Anthrako-kali.

Experience has shown that this remedy is useful in cases of chronic herpes; several dispensary patients, who had chronic cracks and ulcerations of the nostrils, were relieved by its administration. It seems worth trying in lichen.

Aurum.

Seven years ago, a gentleman, after a few other medicines, was put on a course of this remedy under the following circumstances. He was a young man—but he was old in that kind of achievement of which Horace speaks in his ode to Venus—

"Jam militavi non sine gloriâ."

if that sort of ignoble glory consists in a conspicuous "corona veneris." He was a grievous sufferer from secondary syphilis, and hydrargyrosis; a notable specimen of a victim of sexual and mercurial abuses. He had been repeatedly salivated, was wasted to a shadow, a breathing skeleton. He had nodes on his legs, and the aforesaid corona veneris; portions of the frontal bone had exfoliated. He had taken opiates habitually, and, as he said, £18 worth of Sarsaparilla during the twelve months that preceded his trial of Homœopathia. He had been suffering in this manner about two years. He might have used the words of the "Sweet Singer of Israel:" "My wounds stink and are corrupt, because of my foolishness. I am troubled; I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long. For my loins are filled with a loathsome disease; and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and sore broken: I have roared by reason of the disquietness of my heart."

He improved considerably under the use of *aurum*: and after he had been under treatment several months, he was recommended to go into the country to a farm-house. After being there a week or two suffering from nocturnal pains still, but in other respects much better, he went to Manchester, and saw a medical friend there who gave him a night-draught of Henbane. He took a single draught. He then gave up all treatment.

His medical adviser had lost sight of him for six months, when he one day met him, brisk, plump, hilarious. He was quite well, and coolly observed that perhaps the Homœopathic treatment had done him some good, but that he had been cured by his Manchester friend, with that single draught of Henbane. It is hoped, notwithstanding, that this may be recorded as a case of Homœopathic cure. The cure was permanent; and he seemed ever after, like the disappointed and scared bridegroom in Scott's wonderful tale, "The Bride

of Lammermuir," to be "a sadder and a wiser man."

This remedy was given in a case of Ozæna, that was suspected to be of syphilitic origin. It was a very chronic case: and as no impression seemed to be made on it with this and other remedies, after a trial of some months, the patient withdrew.

It would probably be a good plan in such cases, to inject solutions of whatever medicine might be given internally.

It was used, after other remedies, with great benefit in a case of Otorrhœa, in which there was disease of the bones of the ear.

The Muriate of Gold is the preparation preferred by the writer.

Arsenicum.

Of this powerful remedy it is difficult to say anything, lest one be tempted to say too much.

There was a luncheon set forth a few months ago. Two of the party present partook of a pheasant, which had been brought from a district in which the farmers had used arsenic plentifully in their wheat fields. Numbers of pheasants had been found dead in these fields. From this narrative it will readily be conjectured that this particular pheasant did not die from the effects of "villainous saltpetre," as Shakspeare calls gunpowder, and a bit of lead, but from the arsenic in one of those wheat-fields. The lady and the gentleman, who fed on the bird, were both affected in like manner. The lady's case is given.

About half an hour after luncheon, she felt faint, and had an urgent call to the water-closet. The evacuation was copious, but there was no subsequent diarrhœa. She became very restless, and could scarcely keep herself quiet an instant; yet with the least movement, nausea and vomiting were brought on. She suffered greatly from thirst, and burning in the stomach. The pulse was very weak and hurried; there was utter prostration; the countenance was anxious and almost cadaverous in its appearance. There was considerable dyspnœa, great tightness, constriction and sense of burning of the chest. She was sleepless through the ensuing night.

Her medical attendant, a homœopathic surgeon, on the suspicion of her having arsenical symptoms from having eaten arsenicated flesh, had freely given her milk, and the white of eggs. She had in succession, for her group of symptoms, during the several days she was ill, Ipecacuanha, Nux vomica, Bryonia, and Phosphorus. The last remedy was of great service in relieving the dyspnœa, and the tightness and burning of the chest.

The gentleman, whose case this was, mentioned that the other pheasant eater, who had suffered precisely in the same way, was also ill several days.

So many cases will occur to each reader, of the cure of headaches, of a periodical character, that it may be superfluous to recite any in this place. But two may be briefly stated.

A gentleman had been for many years subject to a periodical headache, occurring once a week, sometimes twice, and lasting each time some hours. In all other respects he seemed well, and said he was so. This headache was *stunning*; he became incapable of all movement, or of attention to any subject. He could only rest his head on a table or the arm of a sofa and bear it as he best could. Arsenicum was given to him, and during many months he has only had one or two slight paroxysms, and none lately.

The other case is worthy of record, because one of our worthiest and most able colleagues was induced by that cure to investigate, and since to practise Homœopathia, and through his instrumentality several other medical men have become homœopathic practitioners.

The wife of this gentleman was subject to this distressing periodical headache: it generally had the character of the *clavus*, the boring, circumscribed pressure on a small spot on one of the temples. He had tried his best Allopathic resources for her; he had obtained for her the best advice of some of the best Allopathic practitioners in the metropolis. At that time he scoffed at Homœopathia. He was induced, however, to make trial of a few doses of Arsenicum of the 12th or 30th dilution. She was cured as by magic; five years have passed, and she has had no return of her headache.

Asarum.

Several cases have lately occurred of persons suffering from catarrh, in which the most distressing symptoms was deafness in one or both ears. Some coryza and sneezing; a sensation as if the ears were closed or plugged up with some foreign substance. In these cases asarum was given with good effect.—*British Journal of Homœopathy.*

MIXED PRACTICE.

THE support we have given to unmixed Homœopathia causes some who agree with us, both physicians and laymen, to communicate their approval of our course. We would, with pleasure, lay these letters before our readers, but they were written by those who do not desire their names to appear in print, for it was the purpose of the writers to give information to ourself, to be used in our own articles, for which service we feel a due sense of benefit.

There is ample evidence in the facts before us, together with the nature of the principles which make up our system, that a mixed practice tends more than anything else, to retard the progress of Homœopathia. Wherever cases have occurred, the results of which have been unsatisfactory to those familiar with the

facts, uniformly, they have happened in a mixed practice. Were it proper, we could enumerate cases of this kind which induced individuals and families to give up what they thought was genuine Homœopathic practice. But, where the unmixed practice is strictly adhered to, an end is put to doubt on the part of the sick and of their friends. No other result could reasonably be looked for, if the principles be true, and the practice made to agree with them.

We have just received a letter from a learned and intelligent gentleman of one of our cities of this state, who, in speaking of two mongrels, says: "though their patients sometimes complain of the taste, nausea, &c., they keep themselves very popular with the half Homœopaths; and if an Allopath fails in the treatment of a critical case, and the friends of the patient are determined to resort to Homœopathia, the old school doctors are sure to recommend most highly these two, as the most skilful. Whether these Allopaths arrive at this partiality from a fraternal regard for their known propensity to heroic dosing, or from a less laudable motive, the result is usually such as to give perfect satisfaction to their own feelings!" This writer also remarks: "The time is coming, if it has not already arrived, when the true friends of Hahnemannian principles should know whom, and how far, to trust." We agree in this view of the subject, at the same time, we wish to encourage a generous regard for those who do not yet perceive how inconsistent they are with truth and sound judgment. There can be no such thing as an amalgamation of Allopathia and Homœopathia; the latter will not allow a deviation from its immutable laws with impunity. The administration of drugs to the sick without strict attention to positively known laws, such as Homœopathia consists in, is a serious matter, and harm will come of it, even if the doses are small. Every drug received into the human system is for good or evil; the peculiar effects of the poison will be produced whether the person be conscious of it or not. Drug effects are not always palpable in a few hours or days, but the injury they do may appear months afterwards; this is one reason why Hahnemann was so cautious in advising a repetition of the doses; and why he was so particular in teaching that we may, especially in chronic diseases, wait for days and weeks with full confidence of favorable effects, even from

a single dose of a drug if Homœopathic to the case; we have seen this verified too often in our own practice to doubt its correctness. We never could understand why a remedy should be repeated every two hours or so, as is commonly advised in acute diseases; and two or three times a day in chronic ones. We never heard of a reasonable explanation of this custom, and never expect to; and with the accurate knowledge of the effects of drugs which our school possesses, it should avoid that custom, and never repeat a dose of a remedy unless it be clearly indicated by the phenomena of the case. Obviously, this practice is kept up among us, by the off-hand prescriptions which are made, thereby the mind of the practitioner is left in doubt, if the remedy is the true one, and he seeks to accomplish his object by a kind of revulsive action, by the quantity of a drug. Nature's laws never change, therefore we may look for the appropriate effect of every dose of a properly prepared drug that may be received into the human system. Every true Homœopath should rely with unreserved confidence upon these laws, which he is supposed to understand. Oh! says an opponent, I have always thought the medicines of the Homœopath required faith. Well, what of it? Is there anything unreasonable in that? Can a person exercise a genuine faith in that of which he knows nothing? Can one have a real belief in that which he does not comprehend? Certainly not. The Allopath does not believe in Homœopathia, for the reason he does not comprehend it. But let us examine this faith a little further, for after all the outcry about it, when applied to the action of diluted drugs, it is not such a bugbear as our opponents would have the people regard it. Allopaths have faith too; and their patients have faith also, when they give jalap and calomel, they believe they will purge, and the recipient of them believes so too; and this faith is founded upon experience, and they perfectly comprehend all that is essential to such a result. The Homœopath knows, that drugs prepared in a certain way, and administered under certain conditions, certain effects will follow, and his confidence is unreserved, for two reasons: 1st, it is experience the world over; and 2d, that experience is founded upon clearly developed laws, which are immutable. This saves him from empiricism, and consequently he is no quack, nor does he believe in that he does not comprehend.

The faith argument, if it may be so termed, is the weakest of all the objections to Homœopathia. For no sensible man does any thing but by faith. We eat, drink, and transact our business by faith, and we take medicine by faith, Allopathically or otherwise. All our interests in this life and the next are by faith. Faith is one of the great principles of man, and that man is a fool, who sneeringly says, the Homœopathic cures are by faith. The main purpose of our own labor is to show that Homœopathia is true, that physicians and the people may have faith in it. We also wish to show, that attenuated drugs are the most suitable to cure human maladies, that the people may have faith in them. Is there anything unreasonable in this? We think not.

Before concluding this rambling article, there is a point which should by no means be overlooked; it is, that sometimes a very crude Homœopathic practice is fallen into by Allopaths; for they, having no fixed principles, wander about, and occasionally get upon our ground; in this respect, those mixed Homœopathic practitioners often resemble Allopaths, and the latter, not understanding the subject, allege that the former have no confidence in their system. The fact is, these persons do not know their own practice, and do not understand one another. This class of Homœopaths are habitually declaiming of the imperfections of Homœopathia, "It is so young," say they, "one man could not have rendered it any thing like complete;" and with a wise look, declare, "It will take hundreds of years before it will be found adapted to all diseased conditions, and under these circumstances we must go to the impure sources of Allopathia;" and they are true to their faith, they do go there; and we will do them the justice to say, that they do generally select the crudest kind of Homœopathia, which has been mixed with Allopathia. Hence it is, they too often fail to cure the sick, and thereby bring a reproach upon pure Homœopathia.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER WRITTEN TO A FRIEND.

You ask if oil is a legitimate remedy for a Homœopathist to use? I would answer that in disease, decidedly No. Oil is but a cathartic, though a mild one. It is an Allopathic measure—a revulsive measure, pro-

ducing a disease in the bowels. If constipation arises from a determination to some other structure other than the bowels, the Homœopathist would not give oil, but would prescribe for that determination, together with the constipation, for this simple reason, that he never prescribes for a single symptom, but for the whole group. If he gave oil, he would be prescribing but for one symptom, in the hope of removing the rest by overcoming that one, a mode of practice which is peculiar to Allopathy.

Constipation is the result, in most all cases, from an action set up in structures other than the bowels. You must, therefore, perceive that to cure that action by drawing it into the bowels is Allopathic, and does not deserve the name of Homœopathia. And it is equally clear, that when the constipation arises from a torpor of the bowels, to force them by a cathartic would, by the secondary action (which is the action upon which the Homœopathist relies), make them hopelessly constipated, for it is well known that Allopathy never does more than palliate constipation, and leaves the case in a far worse state than she found it. The cathartic principle is relying on the primary action of the drug, which is Allopathy; the secondary action is the action upon which the Homœopathist relies for a cure; therefore, no Homœopathist can belong to the evacuating school; that is not his legitimate position.

SUCCESS OF THE HOMŒOPATHIC TREATMENT.

HUDSON KINSLEY, M.D., of this city, reports to us, that from the 15th of May to the 15th of September, 1849, he treated 477 cases of *cholérine*, or the first stage of cholera, and no deaths; 25 cases of fully developed *cholera*, and 4 deaths; 97 cases of *cholera infantum*, and 1 death; 142 cases of dysentery, and no deaths.

He gave *veratrum* and *cuprum* as preventives of the cholera, to about eight hundred persons; not one of whom took the disease. In the same families, in several instances, those who took the preventives escaped, while those who did not take them, became seriously ill of cholera.

Many of the cases reported above as *cholérine* were really in the second stage of cholera, but the action of the remedies was so prompt

that in an hour or less the cure was nearly effected.

All the cases of dysentery were characterized by mucous, bloody evacuations, and tenesmus.

Most of the cases of *cholera infantum* were attended with *teething*—the fatal one was a child less than a month old, and deprived of its mother's breast.

CAMPBOR IN CHOLERA.

THE spirits of camphor recommended and employed in from one to three drop doses in the cholera, never agreed with our own views, although on some occasions we have seemed to favor such doses.

In several cases of the cholera, we found drop doses instantly rejected by the patients; in other cases, not in our own practice, we noticed that three drops every five minutes, and continued for two or three hours, caused an exceedingly hot skin, and profuse sweat, but no pulse, and all these cases died. In 1832, we lost two patients under strikingly similar circumstances.

In the latter part of the epidemic, cholera, as it prevailed in our city this summer, we employed the third and thirtieth attenuations of camphor, with results much more satisfactory. We hope these attenuations may be used, and the results reported. We could never understand why camphor would not allow of attenuation as well as other drugs. A few pellets moistened with the thirtieth of camphor will cause a perspiration in ourself, almost at any time—we have tested it several times.

We congratulate Allopaths that they have at last got something in the shape of a reasonable charge against Homœopaths for simulating their doses in the use of camphor. The London Medical Gazette rejoices exceedingly on account of this use of camphor, and so does a Boston journal by the aid of the Gazette. We can well afford to allow you, gentlemen, this bone to pick; you will, no doubt, diligently work away at it for some time; it will answer for a standing dish, for it is the first one you ever had, and it may be the last.

It is very well known that Hahnemann never saw a case of cholera, although, from the written description of that disease, he selected the remedies which have been so useful

in that disease in every part of the world. We doubt if Hahnemann, with the acuteness of his observation of the sick, would have continued the use of spirit of camphor in one or three drop doses, he would have perceived the unnecessary, and in some instances the dangerous aggravations by such doses; and in other cases, their failure to induce a favorable effect. We repeat, when it can be done, let the attenuated camphor be employed in the cholera, if indicated, and report the result.

CHOLERA STATISTICS IN CINCINNATI, AND IN LUBEC, MAINE.

HOMŒOPATHIC physicians must be a remarkable class of men, if what is alleged by allopaths is true. They are represented as deceivers of the public, mainly by false statistics of the success of their treatment of diseases, and thereby hypocritically securing the confidence of the unwary. If this charge was true, nothing has ever happened like it, for the accusation was made nearly fifty years ago, and has been continued from time to time, to the present period; in fact, it has been a standing charge, uttered by allopaths everywhere; and yet these statistics become more and more favorable, and what adds to the remarkableness in the history of homœopathia, is, that latterly some of the most eminent men in the laity make up and publish statistics from their own observation, more astounding than those of the practitioners themselves.

For example; the Rev. B. F. Barrett, of Cincinnati, writes to Dr. Hering under date of August 9th, 1849, and the letter is published in the Evening Bulletin, of Philadelphia, in which Mr. B. states that "in 86 families that have relied upon the Homœopathic treatment, numbering 476 individuals, of these, 160 had the cholera, and but *one death*. In thirteen families treated allopathically, numbering in all 74 individuals, there have been 25 cases, and *five deaths*. In four families who use the eclectic or botanic practice, in all 30 individuals, there have been five cases, and no deaths." Mr. B. also states, "that in an iron foundry in which are 45 workmen, 20 have been attacked by cholera; some of them were of the severest character. *All of them* were treated homœopathically, and *all recovered*. In a family of six persons, every one

was attacked by cholera—*four* of them had allopathic treatment, and *all died*. The other two had homœopathic treatment, and both *recovered*."

The following is of a similar character:

"Friend Kirby, I have just received a letter from a very intelligent layman at Lubec, Maine, who uses homœopathic medicine in his family, in which he speaks of the cholera as now prevailing in Lubec. If the following extracts are deemed worthy a place in your journal, you are at liberty to use them.

"Yours respectfully,

"S. B. B."

"New York, September 27th, 1849.

"The cholera is prevailing in this little place very much. The mortality is more here than it was in New York, according to the population. I commenced to give some of my medicine, and have made some of the greatest cures. It has had the good effect to cure all who have used it. The doctors here have been losing more than half their number of cases. Dr. D. has had such bad luck under his common treatment, that he came to me to know why it was that the people who had got my medicine all got well in so short a time. I showed him the medicine and the books. He told me that he had some patients that he expected to lose, and he wished to try if there was so much virtue in this mode of practice. I gave him some of the medicine, and he tried it on his patients, and satisfied himself so much that he came and wished me to send to you to get him a medicine chest and books the same as mine, and send them on with all possible haste. Please send it by express as soon as possible. He is now using out of my medicine chest, &c. &c.

"Yours sincerely,

"G. W. GORUM."

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

CHARLES A. STEVENS, M.D., of Buffalo, New York, writes, "Homœopathy is gaining ground rapidly in this city."

John R. Cox, Junr., M.D., of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, wrote August 8th, 1849: "I have had thirty-three cases of cholera, and no deaths."

Dr. Lippe, of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in a letter to us—"as to the high potencies, there

is no doubt in my mind, but they are much more powerful agents than any I ever used."

Dr. George W. Bigler, of Hagerstown, Maryland, says: "I am happy to inform you that the prejudice that existed in the minds of Allopathists is fast giving way, and some of our most eminent physicians are investigating Homœopathia."

Dr. E. A. Potter, of Oswego, New York, writes: "I grow more and more in love with the practice of Homœopathia, and have good reason to believe it is steadily gaining favor with the intelligent portion of our community."

Dr. Wigand, of Dayton, Ohio, says: "I have had cases of cholera, but they yield so readily under Homœopathic treatment, that it is hardly worth speaking of the danger of that disease. I am now trying *Cimex lect.* in fever-and-ague, with astonishing success, and will give you a statement of cases hereafter."

Dr. O. E. Noble, of Penn Yan, New York, writes: "Homœopathia is gaining ground very fast in this section; the people are becoming sick of the 'slaughter-house'—to use the words of one who had an attack of *colic*, and had been treated with calomel, salts and senna, castor-oil, five drops of croton-oil, and thirteen enemata, without relief. I was sent for, and relieved him in two hours."

Dr. Joseph R. Brown, of Peoria, Illinois, writes: "Homœopathia in this city is in its infancy, but slowly and steadily making inroads upon the old practice, and I have no doubt that in a few years this city will be noted for its Homœopathic influence. The city is pleasantly situated, and contains 5000 inhabitants, and fast increasing. Homœopathia has not made as great progress west as in the east, owing in a great degree, to the fact that many who have *attempted* the practice were ignorant of the true principles, and mixed their practice, which I have found in all places to have retarded the progress; yet there is a wide field, and many desirable locations where a *real Homœopath* would do a fine business. The people of the west are becoming sick of taking drugs, and the *intelligent*, when informed, readily embrace the only true doctrine. All that is wanting here is to inform the people, and give them an *honest* practitioner, and the work is soon done. Allopaths here, as well as elsewhere, are raving like *mad men*—using the same arguments. Their days are numbered."

Dr. J. R. Piper, of Washington, District of

Columbia, says: "Homœopathia has taken a fresh start in the metropolis, and is progressing finely. I prefer to follow in the footsteps of Hahnemann, in the practice of 'pure' Homœopathia, as far as I understand it, and my success in the treatment of all sorts of diseases encourages me to adhere strictly to our principles. I wish you would induce Homœopathic physicians throughout the United States to give their address, and publish a list in your journal."

We would cheerfully comply with this request. Send in your names, gentlemen; but remember—pay the postage.

DYSENTERY

THE dysentery prevails in our cities, and in many sections of our country. Under Allopathic treatment, it is very fatal; but Homœopathia is accomplishing even more in this disease than it did in the cholera. Many practitioners of large practice have not lost a single case of dysentery.

We should think, that in a disease like this, where its characteristics cannot be mistaken, and the universal success of the Homœopathic treatment of it, would, if any thing can, awaken a general attention to that system of medicine, from Allopathists; but they seem so fixed in their theories and habits, so walled up by societies, associations, academies, colleges and ethics, that light can no more enter them than the darkest dungeon. We rejoice, however, in knowing that this state of things is not universal, for many very lately have begun the study of Homœopathia, who will, we trust, become in due time successful practitioners of it.

OBJECTIONS AGAINST HOMŒOPATHIA.

Those who undertake to reply to every objection which may be raised against truth, have a task which can never be accomplished. This arises, not from the difficulty of answering objections which may present themselves to a candid inquirer, but from the fact, that every truth has many uncandid opponents, who cannot or will not feel the force of reasoning, however decisive, and who will make use of an objection which has been a thousand times refuted, with all the assurance which an unanswerable argument would justify. In this respect, the truths of Homœopathia fare no better than truths in other de-

partments of knowledge. The opponents of Homœopathia never weary of presenting the very objections which have been again and again answered—many of which, indeed, are scarce worthy an answer—and they are offered, not merely with an unblushing front, but with an air of triumph. These objections may suffice to confirm those already prejudiced, but can have no weight with those who inquire for themselves. Thus it is in vain to tell such a person that Homœopathic medicines have no effect except through the imagination, for he knows very well, that the effect of a Homœopathic dose is as prompt and energetic upon an infant or a brute, as upon the most imaginative and mature individual. It is vain to tell him that nature alone performs the cure, for he sees that these very physicians who so extol the power of nature where Homœopathic patients are concerned, are exceedingly distrustful of her when prescribing for their own patients—so far from leaving every thing to her, the greater part of them leave well nigh nothing to her, but are never content till fire and sword have been carried into every part of the system. Equally vain is it to tell him that Homœopathists, under the cover of minute doses, administer the most subtle and powerful poisons, for he knows that the largest dose ever given by Homœopathic physicians, would appear infinitely small when compared with the smallest ever given by Allopathic. And thus we might go through with the stereotyped list of objections against Homœopathia, and show how futile they all appear to any one who is earnestly seeking *truth*, and who is in possession of the facts in the case. But if these objections are powerless in one point of view, they are not without their efficacy in another. They open the eyes of the community to the want of candor on the part of those who make use of them, and convince thousands that the self-styled Regulars, in their attacks upon Homœopathia are not actuated by a love of truth, and a desire to preserve from error what little there is of Medical Science, but are under the influence of motives far lower—motives unworthy any intelligent and honorable man.

We are far from being willing to brand all the opponents of Homœopathia with the foul epithets by which they seek to characterize us; we can even conceive it possible for a person to practise Allopathia and possess both sense and honesty; but we do aver that those are utterly destitute of both these qualities, and of every other quality usually found in the possession of honorable men, who can stoop to retail from house to house, such silly objections as those already noticed, based as they are upon falsehood, too shallow to deceive any but the most superficial. And yet in almost any community, one need not travel far to find men who pretend to be men of science, and who aspire to high rank in the profession, who can stoop to such littleness,

and for the most sordid considerations are ready to vilify doctrines into whose merits they are too conceited or too indolent to examine. In so doing, they but disgrace themselves, and make more certain the overthrow of those pernicious doctrines which they uphold. Truth will not only ultimately triumph, but will hurl back upon the heads of her opponents, the weapons with which she has been assaulted.—*North-Western Journal of Homœopathia*.

THE DAILY PRESS A MEDIUM OF MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.

THE time was when medical men, for what reason we know not, regarded it beneath their dignity to write any thing on medical subjects for daily or weekly newspapers, and it was rare for editors of that branch of the press to meddle with medical matters; but a change is gradually taking place, and we should not be surprised that if in a few years some of our city papers will find it their interest to have regular medical departments, and competent editors to supply them. Already scarcely a newspaper from our large cities and towns but contains something on medicine. This is as it should be, for it shows that the people desire information on a subject in which they are deeply interested, and there is nothing unnatural in this; and, furthermore, there is nothing so mysterious in medicine that a layman may not, with a little reading and reflection, learn enough to be able to know when he has a real physician. To know this, even, would be of vast importance to many who are now subject to imposition, not so much from the grossly ignorant pretender, as from the quack with a regular diploma, which are so numerous procured for money, from certain doctor manufactories, with but little regard of the qualifications of the recipient.

ERROR EXPOSED.

WE cannot pass by unnoticed the evidence which often appears in the conversations and writings of Allopaths, that they do not know the import of *Similia similibus curantur*. The Western Lancet, for September, has the following from the pen of its surviving editor:

“It is well known that one of the fundamental principles announced by Hahnemann is, that a remedy must be capable of *causing* the same disease that it is intended to *cure*. This is the principle of *Similia similibus curantur*; or like cures like; the true Homœopathic doctrine.”

We remark: 1st, that Homœopathia has but one fundamental principle. 2d, that principle is, "like cures like," but the editor of the *Lancet* mistakes its meaning, and interprets it, identities cure identities; which is not only not Homœopathia, but it is really no principle at all, for it is impossible to obtain two things that are identical in nature, and much less so in the phenomena of diseases, and those of drugs in the human system. The editor of the *Lancet* adds:

"Now every one will be able to perceive that *camphor* could not possibly *cause* cholera, and yet it is announced as a remedy for that disease! This is an obvious abandonment of one of their main principles."

The above quotations are as clear evidence as one needs to prove, what we really regret, that their author does not understand the subject which he treats. Here is a confounding of similarity and identity, a very common blunder in allopaths. Who ever dreamed even, that camphor would *cause* cholera? No one. Camphor will cause *similar* phenomena to those of cholera, which the editor of the *Lancet* ought to know, if he is familiar with toxicological works of his own school; and because of this *similarity* it becomes a Homœopathic remedy for cholera; and, in our judgment and experience, it is preferable in the 3d or 30th attenuation. Will the editor of the *Lancet* try it, the first opportunity, and see if we are right. Therefore, there is in the use of camphor in cholera, no "abandonment" of a principle by Homœopaths; but on the contrary, it is consistent, in all respects, with the law of cure.

REPORTED FAILURE OF HOMŒOPATHIA IN THE CHOLERA.

THE Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, (which, by-the-by, no longer comes to this office; it has cut us, we suppose, but we can get along without it,) and the Western *Lancet* have published a statement, without giving their authority, of the utter failure of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera in two hospitals in Paris. "Seven cases came under treatment," it is stated, "all of whom died, despite the little globules." We have not been able to learn the source of this information, and it is so unlike results obtained every where else, that we do not credit any part of it. We are, however, reminded of what hap-

pened to ourself in 1832. In one of the cholera hospitals in this city, attended by four allopaths, we undertook to treat a bad case of cholera homœopathically, and after arresting the disease, we left our patient for the night, in a quiet sleep, with a full pulse, warm skin, and in a free perspiration, and strict directions to the physicians, not to do any thing for him, except to allow him water for drink. The following morning we visited our patient, who was vomiting, and we soon detected that opium had been given him. On inquiry, we were frankly told that he had taken two doses of calomel and opium during our absence. This young man, soon after went into a collapse, and died. And this case was spoken of as a failure of the Homœopathic treatment of the cholera.

A WRITER in the Owego Advertiser, who conceals his name, is out against Homœopathia, by quoting the false accusations of Dr. Chas. A. Lee against Hahnemann, which we charged upon Dr. Lee at the time his article appeared, as a wilful perversion of facts. This Owego writer also quotes from a silly article which appeared in the Buffalo Medical Journal, which we believe, although we do not know the fact, was also from the pen of Dr. Lee—it was very like him. If these Allopathic writers had any respect for the intelligence of the people, they would not attempt to arrest the progress of Homœopathia by falsehoods and fallacious arguments. However, they may choose their own weapons—fire away gentlemen—truth is strong, even medical truth has a power in it, which cannot easily be overthrown.

WE are sometimes tempted to publish extracts of letters, by which our readers might learn the praise some of our friends bestow upon this Journal, but really our modesty will not allow it, and the abuse of Allopaths cannot provoke us to a revenge of that sort, but our subscription list is gradually enlarging, which is the right kind of praise. If we thought this number would be seen by some 200 persons who have forgotten to pay for some of the past volumes, we would just hint to them, in the least offensive manner, that we think they ought to pay, or say they are not able, so that the accounts may be closed.

LETTER TO DR. TEMPLE.

Dear Sir:—I am one (and I rejoice to say) of many, who have been forced, by facts occurring before my eyes, during the dark period of sorrow, lamentation, and death, which has just past over our devoted city, to adopt the Homœopathic system. A few of the facts I will state, hoping that they may lead many who are blinded by prejudice, to lay it aside, and try your system.

In the latter part of the first week of June, I was visiting the sick and poor families in the neighborhood of Biddle and Thirteenth streets, to afford such little comforts as lay in my power; and, on enquiry, found that many of the families were down with the Cholera—five were lying dead in the block which I was visiting, and five others were then down with the disease—all had been taken in the previous twenty-four hours.—alarm was depicted on every countenance—hope seemed to fly as soon as Cholera entered the abode of misery. I endeavored to comfort and cheer the desponding, but the reply was—"My neighbor So and So was well yesterday, and he is dead now, and he had the best physicians in town!" In one family in this block (an Irish family), I learned that the wife of an industrious laborer, who had been unceasing in her attentions to the sick and the dying for weeks, had just been taken down by this dread disease, and would soon be dead. I hastened to the house, where I found the husband bending over his wife to watch every breath—he seemed very *anxious*, but said he hoped to see his wife get well, as his Physician did not "murder his patients like the other Doctors," and that he had "seen his wife cured before by his Doctor after every body gave her up to die." I asked what she was taking, he pointed me to two cups on the table, with water in them, which he said he gave a table-spoonful from first one and then the other, every ten minutes. I tasted the water but could perceive no medicine in it. I inquired if that was all the medicine his Physician had left. His reply was—"Yes, and I believe it is enough, for her vomiting is stopped, and she is asy of her cramps, and her purging is not so bad." My surprise was great—I looked at his wife, who seemed sunk and utterly prostrate, and I thought that she would die—but determined to see this new and mysterious way of treating Cholera (my visit was in the morning), I determined to see her in the evening again.

Evening.—Visited my block again—all of those sick in the morning, except the Irishman's wife, were dead—she was comfortable—no more vomiting, purging or cramps—her appearance was more natural, but looked as if she had been through a long spell of disease. Learned that the Doctor had been again, declared her out of danger, had left her some other medicine, and said she would be able to sit up the next day. I asked for the medicine, and again a cup of water was shown me—I

could taste nothing, could smell nothing and asked whether the Doctor put any thing in the water. "And sure he did," was the reply. My surprise of the morning now grew into astonishment—here were nine other cases in the same block, all taken near the same time, all treated by the regular system of medicine, and all dead—while this Irish woman, worn out by attending the sick, the dying, and the dead, was recovering under a treatment, new, simple and marvellous. I determined to find out more about it.

Called the next morning, and, to my amazement, found the woman sitting up and looking well—said she felt well, had slept soundly all night, and eaten a hearty breakfast. Carrying out my determination, I enquired for persons who were under this treatment, and soon heard of one on Franklin Avenue, where I went, and found in the same dwelling three treated by the regular system, and one by this new plan. I watched these cases. The three under the commonly approved system died every one in thirty hours. The one under your system was very low for several days, but recovered; and, I must say, that when I saw them, I thought there was the least chance for him—and here I found the same tasteless water in two cups, and concluded that if such a case could be cured, there must be medicine in the water, and of a most powerful nature, although it could neither be smelt nor tasted. These two facts must suffice for the present, as I have taken up more paper than I intended, and may be trespassing on your time.

S. T. G.

St. Louis (Mo.) South Western Hom. Jour.

HINTS TO AUTHORS.

1. Be brief. This is the age of Telegraphs and Stenography.
2. Be pointed. Don't write all around a subject without hitting it.
3. State facts, but don't stop to moralize. It's drowsy business. Let the reader do his own dreaming.
4. Eschew prefaces. Plunge at once into your subject, like a swimmer in cold water.
5. Condense. Make sure that you really have an idea, and then record it in the shortest possible terms. We want thoughts in their quintessence.
6. Avoid all high-flown language. The plainest Anglo-Saxon words are the best. Never use stilts when legs will do as well.
7. Write legibly. Don't let your manuscript look like the tracks of a spider half drowned in ink.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Hanson Preston will find the article entitled "Fatal consequences of the present modes of practice," which was commenced in the second number of this volume, and ended in

the fifth number, very appropriate to accomplish his object, much better than anything we could now write. The Journals have been sent as directed.

Doctor B.'s favor is received—his article is too long for us, and leans too much towards allopathia.

Medicine. You are a wolf in sheep's clothing. Remember, medicine, that an old Homœopath can perceive what is similar and what is dissimilar.

J. S. B. You think blisters homœopathic ; we don't ; and that blood-letting is also, so thought another man, as conceited as yourself, he promised to show it, but has not ; he simply asserted that it was so, and you have done the same.

Inquirer. Most certainly we would cause a patient to vomit, if we knew his stomach contained stramonium seeds. Homœopathia has nothing to do with removing the seeds from the stomach. You would not give the 30th attenuation of a drug, to remove a splinter from a finger, would you ?

I. R. R. If you have some three or four thousand dollars to rely upon, you may remove to this city, and with economy, after you have lived that up, you may begin to receive enough for professional services to support your small family.

Dr. L. D. We have no need of the service you speak of, and do not know any one who has.

DISCOVERIES.—On the authority of the Western Lancet, in *Cincinnati*, the discovery has been made that medical men are not suited to the place of members of the Board of Health ! In this city, a large number of our most intelligent citizens discovered that allopathic physicians are unfit to be counsellors to our Board of Health. These discoveries may be of use hereafter.

HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Session of 1849 50. Lectures will commence on the first Monday of October, and continue until the first of March ensuing, and will be delivered under the following arrangement.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics, by CALEB B. MATTHEWS, M. D.

Homœopathic Institutes and the Practice of Medicine, by WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D.

Botany and Medical Jurisprudence, by SAMUEL FREEDLEY, M. D.

Clinical Medicine, by CHARLES NEIDHARD, M. D.
Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, by WALTER WILLIAMSON, M. D.

Physiology and Pathology, by ALVAN E. SMALL, M. D.

Chemistry and Toxicology, by MATTHEW SEMPLE, M. D.

Surgery, by FRANCIS SIMS, M. D.

Anatomy, by WILLIAM A. GARDINER, M. D.

Clinical instruction in Medicine and Surgery, given at the Dispensary connected with the College, daily.—Students who have attended one or more full courses of instruction in other medical schools, may become candidates for graduation, by attendance upon one full course in this school.

Amount of fees for a full course of lectures, \$100,00

Matriculation fee, paid only once, - - 5,00

Practical Anatomy, - - - - 10,00

Graduation fee, - - - - 30,00

Students who have attended two full courses in other schools, - - - - 30,00.

The Commencement will take place early in March

W. WILLIAMSON, M. D., *Dean*.

No. 80 North 11th St., Phila.

MEDICAL LECTURES.

The undersigned proposes to deliver a regular course of lectures (daily) on the Practice of Medicine, to commence on the 5th day of November next, and to end on the 1st of March following.

The main object of these lectures will be to teach the science and art of Homœopathia ; at the same time, it is intended to present somewhat minutely, a history of medicine from the time of Hippocrates to the present period.

It is desirable that those who intend to practice the healing art according to the system of Hahnemann, should avoid the too common error of entering upon that duty, before having thoroughly studied it. This cannot be accomplished so well as by frequent familiar lectures, together with opportunities of seeing the practice in various diseases. Those who attend this course of lectures, may have the privilege of a daily attendance at the New-York Homœopathic Dispensary, and examine the cases "treated there by twelve Physicians of the Homœopathic School," for which there will be no charge.

The lectures will be delivered at the Dispensary Room, No. 58 Bond-street.

Tickets for the course, \$15.

Those who enter the office of the undersigned during the lectures, and avail themselves of whatever may be there afforded them in aid of a knowledge of Homœopathia, will be charged \$15 extra.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

No. 762 Broadway.

New-York, August 1, 1849.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia ; Otis Clapp, Boston ; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

Subscriptions for this Journal will be received as heretofore, by Otis Clapp, Boston, Mass., by J. F. Desilver, Cincinnati, Ohio, and Rademacher, Phila.

(Dr. B. M. Weld)

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."

VOL. 4.

New-York, November, 1849.

NO. 7.

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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NEW-YORK, NOVEMBER, 1849.

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## TRUTHS AND THEIR RECEPTION.

ON no scientific subject whatever are the general public so little instructed as on medicine; it being the invariable rule of all medical practitioners, and one in which they present a contrast to almost all other professional men, to discourage every thing like inquiring into the peculiar mysteries of their art. The geologist, the mechanician, the astronomer, the chemist, the botanist, and, indeed, each and all of the followers of the other sciences, are only too happy in all occasions to find persons who will talk with them, and endeavor to penetrate into every thing they know; but the medical philosopher invariably declines to encourage amateurs of any kind. Whether this arises from a benevolent caution, unknown to the astronomer, or mechanician, or chemist—since a man might do as much mischief by a misapplication of astronomy, mechanics, and chemistry, in attempting to steer a ship, or to open a dyke, or to make an explo-

sive compound, as by a misapplication of the healing art—it is not necessary to inquire. It is enough for our present purpose, to show that the public are generally without any definite views whatever, either in the theory or practice of medicine, and that, consequently opposition to any new doctrine respecting it is not likely to arise from actual prejudice on their part; and as the announcement of such new doctrine would, in addition to the charm of novelty, commend itself by benevolence, there is in fact, every reason to believe that they would, under ordinary circumstances, manifest a favorable disposition towards its reception.

Still, it has been observed that, as a general rule, not only do they abstain from manifesting any favorable disposition towards Homœopathy, but that they avoid the discussion of it, with a degree of earnestness amounting frequently to something like bitterness. This, however, although it cannot be accounted for by prejudice against the introduction of a new doctrine in medicine, can easily be explained by the fact, which it is the object of this essay to neutralize, of the hostility of the majority of the medical profession. Although the public entertain no particular prejudice against discussing any medical point whatever, on the assumption, that if it were desirable it should be discussed at all, the members of the profession would long ago have set them the example.

It is not enough, however, to reason out the point. There are some minds, to whom our practical example is worth more than a volume of argument. Let us, therefore, take a glance at what is recorded of the early reception and progress of some of the reforms, and discoveries which are now universally recognized, and the instances of which may occur to us at random.

First, we may make a selection from the

records of moral progress. It can safely be stated that no discovery in practical morality has been of more importance to society, than that which exhibited the error of adopting, in the treatment of criminals, an indiscriminate and sanguinary legislation. So recently as 1819, the punishment of death applied to about 150 minor degrees of offence, some of them, according to Sir James Mackintosh, of the most frivolous and fantastic description. As an example, it may be stated that, among the crimes against which this penalty was specified, were "taking any fish out of any river or pond," "injuring of Westminster Bridge," "breaking down the head or mound of a fish pond," &c.; and it was also liable to be enforced against "gipsies remaining within the kingdom one month;"—offences by the side of which "sending threatening letters," "shoplifting," "horse, deer, and sheep stealing," and "turnpike levelling," appear acts of peculiar enormity; and such as need not be enumerated with surprise, as also involving the same doom. Now, if the argument we have urged in the preceding pages be correct, it will not have been from lawyers or judges that the discovery of the fallacy of this mode of proceeding was first made known; but on the contrary, we must expect to find that the great argument against those who advocated a better system, consisted, as at the present day in the case of Homœopathy, in the fact that those whose special province it was to investigate and decide upon the matter, were unequivocally of opinion that the new theory would not do, and ought not to be entertained. Accordingly, we find that from the year 1750 downwards, constant attempts were made in the House of Commons to amend the criminal laws, and that these attempts were constantly frustrated by the upper House, where the predominance of the law-lords has always been most powerful.

When Sir Thomas More, in 1520, first ventured to question the advantage of putting men to death for petty offences, "the lawyers," it is said "all fell upon him," and charged him with ignorance of judicial affairs; and although it is true that one of his opponents, who was most energetic in commending the punishment, and who had just expressed his satisfaction that thieves were then dealt with so severely that there were sometimes twenty on one gibbet, admitted himself greatly perplexed at the fact that, while so few es-

caped, there were yet so many left that no place was safe from them; he still maintained that "a different method could *never* be pursued in England, without endangering the whole nation."

In 1813, when Sir Samuel Romilly brought in a bill for abolishing the punishment of death for privately stealing to the amount of 5s., Sir Thomas Plumer, the Attorney General, expressed his disapprobation of it, stating at the same time that he was supported in his opposition by the opinions of *all* the judges, and of the Recorder and common Sergeant of London. Lord Ellingborough deprecated such discussion, and said he should resist the further introduction of an innovating spirit into our criminal legislation. One member quoted the maxim, *Nolumus leges Anglia mutari*, and another admitted that "the strongest argument he had heard against the bill was the *opinion of the Judges*." At the same time he observed, "it might be remarked that there was a propensity in all professional men to resist every deviation from establishment usages."

The bill passed the Commons by a majority of 72 against 34. It was, however, thrown out in the Lords by a majority of nearly two to one. "All the ministers, *law-lords*, and bishops," it is stated in the Annual Register, "voted against it."

Again, when in the year 1830 an attempt was made to repeal the punishment of death in cases of forgery excepting the forgery of wills, it was opposed by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Tenterden, Lord Wynford, and Lord Eldon; and the point most strongly urged against the measure was, that "there could be little doubt infinitely greater weight was due to the experience of these high judicial characters in a matter with which they had been conversant as the business of their lives, than to the abstract speculations of mere theorists, founded in no satisfactory data." The mere theorists, however, had gradually gained the day in all the former cases, and in this they were also destined to find success. The punishment of death has long since been removed from each of the crimes to which we have referred, and with the best results; the legal mind, however, has not altered, and every new amelioration that is proposed has still encountered the hostility of the profession, and to meet, as in the time of Sir Thomas More, the invariable declaration that the contemplated change can never be adopted, without endangering the whole nation.



Having thus selected an illustration from the highest point connected with moral progress, it may next be appropriate to take one from the history of physical science. In this case, also we shall make choice of one of the grandest and most momentous movements which that history presents.

When in the year 1474, Christopher Columbus matured his theory of the existence of a western continent, his natural impulse in seeking the means to enable him to demonstrate the truth of his conception was to apply to those who, like the judges in the case of capital punishment, had been "conversant with the subject" of navigation "as the business of their lives," and accordingly he offered his services, to the great maritime republic, Genoa. No people at that time in existence were better capable, if the doctrine is to be received that professional habits and interests are the true things to promote a sound and favorable judgment, of deciding upon the merit of his plan, than the Genoese, and never had anything been presented more calculated to throw lustre on the peculiar science the cultivation of which, within its routine limits had rendered them great and famous. The few dry words, however, in which the fate of the proposal is recorded, are, that it was "rejected as the dream of a chimerical projector."

But Columbus was not to be thwarted by this rebuff; and as he seemed, with an infatuation which would have done honor to the present day, to cling to the opinion, that it was from professional men that a professional discovery must be expected to find reception, he next submitted his plan to Portugal, the people of which country also were then amongst "the most experienced navigators in Europe." The king listened to him; and Columbus, with his desire for professional sympathy, must have been delighted, when the matter was referred to the most eminent cosmographers, whom his majesty had been in the habit of consulting, and who had not only performed the functions of "chief directors of the Portuguese navigation," but had given most attention to the question of the passage of India, which it was the aim of Columbus to discover. But alas! the record is that here, again, the prejudices of these persons were sufficient to baffle his success, "since," as it is observed by Dr. Robertson, "they, could not approve of his proposal, without the mortification of acknowledging his superior sagacity."

Weary and dejected, Columbus had now gained experience of what he was to expect from those who, according to the views of the world both then and at the present time, must have been the only proper persons to decide upon his scheme. His next act, therefore, was to proceed to Spain, a country which boasted of no eminent navigators or cosmographers, and which had never made any attempts to extend the ancient limits of discovery. Still, of course, Spain was not without professors of these subjects, and to these professors, such as they were, his proposals were again, in the due order of things, submitted. It is unnecessary to add, that they were reported on with disfavor. "If it was maintained, there were really any such countries, as Columbus pretended, they could not have remained so long concealed, nor would the wisdom and sagacity of former ages have left the glory of this invention to an obscure Genoese pilot. For five years he had, therefore, to contend, as it has been forcibly remarked, "not only with the obstinacy of ignorance, but what is still more intractable, the pride of false knowledge;" and even at the end of this period, he was destined to meet with a new repulse. From princes, also, of inferior station, one after another, the same mortification was sustained; and it is impossible to doubt that in all these instances the parties consulted, and whose opinions led to the contemptuous discouragement which was manifested, were the individuals most reputed at the respective courts for their studies and experience on this peculiar subject.

At length, however, Columbus being about to leave Spain, a monk together with a medical man, who seemed to have had no due sense of their presumption in forming an opinion in nautical affairs, and who feeling satisfied of the truth of his views, were tormented with the idea that some other country would finally secure the honor of their fulfilment, obtained once more for him a hearing at court. Once more, however, the subject was referred to competent persons, and once more, even in the face of court influence, it was reported upon not only as doubtful, but as in some degree ridiculous. Happily, however, the feelings of the Queen had been enlisted in the cause. The monk and the physician lived to find that they had been right, and that all the cosmographers and navigators of Europe would have done well to have gone to

school to them. The protests of all the authorities, however, were undiminished up to the very hour when the vessels of the adventurous theorist left the shore; and it was only through the womanly enthusiasm of Isabella that he was destined ultimately to announce a new continent to the world.

From these illustrations, selected from the most striking instances of progress in moral and physical science, it would seem fit now to turn to the records of religious advancement.

On this part of the subject, however, it must be unnecessary to expatiate, since every page of that book whence alone mankind derive all of light they can receive, contains the unceasing story of the pride, stubbornness, and envy with which each new revelation of the divine will was rejected by those who, in the eyes of the people, were especially qualified to be its expounders and ministers. From the period when the sorcerers and magicians of Egypt turned away from the wonders wrought by Moses, or from that when the prophets of Baal, numbering four hundred and fifty men, opposed themselves to the signs and exhortations of Elijah, down to the day when every prophecy was made plain, and all that had been promised was fulfilled, the same terrible features of unbounding hostility are shown, varying only by their gradual increase in proportion as the climax of the truth drew near, until at last, no matter what might be the circumstances presented, they were all, however opposite their complexion, received as food for the malignant passion that had been awakened. "John came neither eating nor drinking, and they said he had a devil." The son of man came eating and drinking, and they said, "Behold a man gluttonous and a wine-bibber, a friend of publicans and sinners."

Throughout the whole history of our Saviour's career there is scarcely the slightest evidence of opposition to his doctrine, except as it was stimulated by the chief priests, and the Scribes and Pharisees. Indeed, day by day, when these parties sought to lay hands upon him, they were prevented because they "feared the people." It was the chief priests who urged the force of authority, that is to say, of "the experience in a matter with which they had been conversant, as the business of their lives," which has since been so often urged by the like-minded of after generations, as suffi-

cient to prevent all inquiry or belief on the part of the multitude. When their own officers even exclaimed, "Never man spake like this man," it was the chief priests who asked, "Are ye also deceived? *Have any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed on him?*" It was in the palace of the high priest that the plots were laid for procuring false testimony, and it was this personage who rent his clothes, and who, exclaiming that blasphemy had been spoken, impatiently inquired, "what further need have we of witnesses?" It was from the "chief priests" that the great multitude with swords and staves, to bring their victim to judgment, and it was by them that Judas was suborned; it being also to their hands that he returned the thirty pieces of silver he had received. Finally, when we read that Pilate, a mere military governor, was able to see that "for envy they had delivered him," and was accordingly disposed to release him; but that "the chief priests and elders *persuaded* the multitude they should ask Barabbas, and destroy Jesus," and that, true to their character to the very last, when Pilate wrote, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews" they protested, even amidst the awful signs of that closing scene, "write not the King of the Jews, but that he said, I am the King of the Jews," we have a picture of the uncompromising pride of professional caste, knowledge, and self-interest, perhaps only more sublime than any other ever presented because the revelations against which it was directed was the highest and most beneficent ever given our race.

Has human nature wholly changed since that hour, or is it the same in its main features except the partial improvement it has undergone by the slow progress of the lessons of forbearance and humility which were then sealed. The hearts of all people will at once answer the question. The same spirit prevails, although modified in some by the influence of the Christian doctrine, and it is consequently worse than ignorance or mockery to pretend that at the present day the public should look in the first instance to the high priests of the various department of knowledge for the reception of such new developments regarding the laws of the universe, as the Creator may in His wisdom be pleased to place before us.

*To be Continued.*



## THE PRESENT POSITION OF THE ALLOPATHIC TO THE HOMŒOPATHIC SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

ALL sorts of efforts have been put forth to prevent the progress of Homœopathia. In no period as at the present, has there been such deep, strong, fixed and burning feelings to destroy the peculiar distinctive marks of genuine Homœopathia. The completeness of her science, and the precision of her art requires a close and careful study of the individuality of each case of disease in all the minuteness of its details, and a similar labor in finding the remedy; these are so unlike Allopathia, that those who are educated only in her baseless theories and in her pernicious art, are not likely to look with favor on a system, which to understand and practice, requires them to be educated anew.

The Allopathic school is divided into the Eclectic, the Thompsonian and the Botanic; these have their colleges, their teachers, and their practitioners, and have been regarded heretofore as essentially differing. However this may be in their language and in their theories, they meet and agree on two points in which everything essential to them are embraced: 1st, they attempt to found theories of cure upon theories of disease. 2d, their treatment is directed to diminish or increase the vital force by evacuants and stimulants; hence their emetics, cathartics, sudorifics, sialagogues, tonics, stimulants, &c., together with venesection. They are, therefore, on common ground in practice, for the difference is in form only, not in fact.

This very brief notice of the Allopathic school of medicine is undeniable, and will be recognized as true by every intelligent and unprejudiced reader. Thousands have experience of its truth in their own persons, who have been treated by all of them in turn, and found the same result in the various forms in which drugs were administered. Heretofore a necessity was laid upon the sick, to submit to one or another of these classes of physicians; and many did so with a sort of innate reluctance, while others, yielding to the influence of a good judgment, refused all such medication and trusted their health and life to "nature," rather than run the risk of large quantities of poisonous substances prescribed in the name of *science*. The Allopathic school admits, in truth almost boasts of the

uncertainty of its science and art, and it is on this ground that it claims the forbearance and charity of the living, for its failure upon the millions who have died, by the appointment as was supposed, of "an inscrutable providence."

The uncertainty of the healing art has been preached for years from every chair in the colleges, and has been a daily topic of conversation among the members of the profession. Journalists also advocated the same doctrine, and even went so far as to assert that it was hardly possible for the healing art to approximate certainty. This doctrine has had a pernicious influence in two ways: 1st, it has led to a loose mode of treating diseases, and a kind of recklessness of human health and life. 2d, these incorrect notions have biased the minds of physicians, and given them an unreasonable bent towards any system that pretends to even an approximation of certainty in the science and art of medicine.

True observers will not, we think, deny these results from the cause we have mentioned. If such do so, we ask them to mark the practice of the Allopath in attendance upon him whose life is regarded of the highest importance by his friends. The physician is urged to exert his skill to the utmost, and sometimes he offers a most remarkable kind of consolation, by informing anxious relations, that "there is nothing certain in medicine." He also says, I will treat this disease on the most approved method, which is that of Dr. —, and if we fail we shall have the satisfaction of knowing that all has been done in the case which is recommended by the most approved authority in the profession. The doctor becomes thereby a mere copyist, an imitator of another, without any regard whatever to a principle. What does he do? He gives a name to the disease, and then administers drugs in an unknown compound, to the disease he supposes is truly represented by the name he sees fit hastily to give it. And such is the absolute uncertainty in naming diseases that it is well known that scarcely two physicians agree, and this is the occasion of detraction among physicians towards one another more than anything else. However, deeply an Allopath may feel for a sick friend, he has not, we defy the profession to show it, a single well established principle to guide him in the administration of a remedy, he deals in an imperfect hope; we admit, he *desires* fer-

vently, but when he attempts to *expect*, there is no basis upon which he can fix expectation. In a word, the whole treatment is conducted on "we will try this; we will try that; we will try the other." We state it as a fact, and we have reason to assume that we know, that however honest and however talented, and however learned an Allopath may be, it is utterly out of his power to administer a single dose of any drug upon any established principle, unless he trespasses on Homœopathia.

When, therefore, Hahnemann promulgated his doctrine, it was not at all remarkable that he should have met with the most prompt and violent opposition, for no one acquainted with the human mind and passions could have, for a moment, looked for a different result. Even now, after Homœopathia has been prominently before the profession for a half a century, the opposition is more ardent than ever, and were it not for the intelligence of the people, who judge of it from its results, scarcely a vestige would be seen. The superficial observer may think the "small doses" are the stumbling block, we thought so too, a few years ago, but when we found some practitioners prescribing willingly those doses, but claiming to do so on the physiological and pathological doctrines of the French and Germans, we perceived that they fell into the same uncertainty of the pure Allopaths, and their mode of prescribing was conducted in the same hasty and loose manner. We looked steadily for a long time at these movements, until we are now satisfied that the true ground of opposition is in the exactness of the law of cure, and the universality of its adaptation to all diseases proper. The question of the capability of attenuated medicines to produce effects in the human organism is almost conceded, for it is now declared by those who formerly spoke of them as utterly powerless, that they are potent and actually tend to cause nervous diseases. If then the potency of the "small doses" is admitted, why is not Homœopathia universally embraced by the profession?

The answer to this question is, the profession generally do not perceive it possible to have a complete science in medicine. Homœopathia presents herself to them perfect in this respect, which is at once pronounced an absurdity. It will be observed that we invariably keep in view the wide distinction of the

science of medicine and the art of medicine; Homœopathia is perfect in the one, but admits of vast improvement in the other. Another view may be taken of this subject, which perhaps will render it plainer: Homœopathia does not allow of any degree of speculation in diseases or in the remedies, she deals exclusively in facts, and every step of her workings are based upon positively ascertained facts, she never deals in the language of Allopathia, such as "probably," "it is possible," "it may be so," "it is most likely," &c., &c. Hence it was that Hahnemann was able to point out the remedies for the Asiatic cholera, yet not having had an opportunity of testing them in a single case. These remedies as now established, are certain in the cholera; so also, any well instructed Homœopath can, on the appearance of an epidemic disease, which in many things may be entirely new to the profession, select the appropriate remedy, which on trial will be found certain in its curative effects. It is admitted that diseases change in their phenomena; when this happens, it does not at all interrupt Homœopathia, it should not in the least degree embarrass her practitioners, in fact it does not, for they are governed by the actual phenomena distinctly existing before them, and about which there can be no question, consequently a new disease, or a new form of an old one causes no embarrassment whatever; now this is the great stumbling block to most of the profession, they have actually lived so long in darkness that the brilliant rays of the sun cannot be endured, and they close up their eyes and declare that they see nothing; the light is all around them, but their eyes are shut; and those of us who had the courage to open our eyes, although we did so cautiously and gradually, and thereby endured some pain, and a degree of inflammation from its piercing rays, although we call daily and loudly to our colleagues to do as we have done, they tell us in reply, We see nothing, you are a set of hypocrites, you wish to deceive us as you have the people. We continue to say to them, Don't you see the cholera cured? No! Nor the dysentery? No! Nor cholera infantum? No! This seems to us to be nearly the state of things in the Allopathic in relation to the Homœopathic school; but it cannot remain so much longer, especially if genuine Homœopathia is allowed to control the treatment of diseases.



## POWERFUL REMEDIES.

THAT severe diseases must be met with powerful remedies, has long been the belief of the Allopathic School. Some of the more enlightened Allopathists have to some extent seen the error of this notion, and denounced it, but as far as we can learn, it is still held by the great majority of practitioners, and we may say universally by those of the laity who trust themselves, in the hour of sickness, to Allopathic practice. The notion is as erroneous as it is wide spread, and no less pernicious than erroneous. This notion alone has done more to retard the progress of Homœopathia, than all the fulminations of Medical Societies, or all the wit (!) and arguments (?) of medical writers, since it has prevented those who entertain it, from making a practical investigation of Homœopathia. The course of reasoning—we call it *reasoning* through courtesy—by which this principle was reached, is peculiar, and forcibly exemplifies from what gross analogies the practice of Allopathia is deduced. No one can doubt that a desolating fire must be met promptly and energetically—nor can it be disputed that two fire companies, if properly directed, will do at least twice as much good as one in quelling the flame, or that four will do twice as much as two. Nor can it be denied, that if a powerful foe invade the land with fire and sword, he must be met and repelled by a force commensurate with his own. This is all clear enough, but now let us follow our Allopathic friends, and see if the analogy will hold. Here is a patient, suffering, we will say from a raging fever, attended with internal inflammation, which threatens to dry up the springs of life, and hurry its victim into the grave. The attack is violent—the disease severe, says the Allopathist, hence the remedies must be severe and violent. The veins, or perhaps the arteries must be opened to cut off the supplies of the enemy; the bowels must be purged, the stomach puked, the skin blistered, and he will soon find it too hot for him everywhere, and withdraw. Doubtless—but suppose as he retires, he takes the life with him: what then? Oh, well—the disease was violent and could not be overcome—everything was done that could be—at least he died, *secundum artem*, under the hands of a regular practitioner of medicine, which ought to be a source of satisfaction to the patient's friends, though he himself is out of the reach of it. Leaving the sick room, he betakes himself to the street, and meets a Homœopath, and salutes him thus:—I have just lost a case of fever, of a very violent nature—why, I bled him to fainting, half a dozen times within the last ten days—I blistered his head, back, chest, belly and legs—I gave him tartar emetic without stint, and calomel by the twenty grains—I leeches him, and cupped him, and starved him, but all to no purpose—I could not subdue the violence of the disease. What do you suppose your *little pills* could do, continues he,

with a sneer, what do you suppose your little pills could do in such a case as that? Why, if one of the spoonfuls of calomel I gave that man, were dissolved in all the waters of the globe, and a drop of the mixture were given, it would be a stronger dose than you would give; and if a strong dose would not cure him, if all the strong doses and violent means would not cure him, much less would a less dose. This would be admirable reasoning if man were only a machine, and his motions and sensations could be determined by the laws of mechanics, but this is not so. Such analogies disregard the vital principle which presides over all the functions of the body, and modifies or sets at defiance all the laws which govern inanimate matter: hence they must be radically in error, and all rules of practice deducted from them must be false. True, in speaking of disease, of fever for instance, we say that is a *raging* fever, or *violent*, or *severe*, but this is figurative language, otherwise the expression is inappropriate, for in no case is the force of disease in any respect analogous to the force of which inorganic matter is the subject. As there is no force to which the vital force can be compared, nor any machine, to which we can liken the wonderful spiritual and corporeal mechanism with which we are endowed, so there is no force to which these powers, when diseased, can be likened. Disease is as immaterial as life, for it is nothing but life turned aside from its proper orbit, and as life in health is every moment under the influence of immaterial causes, and is swayed hither and thither by them, so may life in sickness be—so it most assuredly is. No mind but one mystified with Allopathic fogs and crudities, can conclude otherwise.

But granting for a moment, that disease is like a mechanical force, which can only be overcome by violent means, is the Allopathic notion on this point *then* shown to be right? By no means. The force must, in the first place, be one that shall be appropriate to the force of the disease—thus no one, (unless it were an Allopathist) would think of subduing a raging fire by the use of a raging wind, nor by numerous or powerful streams of oil or turpentine; and in the next place, it must be used in the proper direction, for no one, with the above-mentioned exception, would think of arresting the course of a train of cars down an inclined plane, by hurling an immense weight on the roofs of the cars, or at one side or the other. This would undoubtedly arrest the train, but how would the passengers relish the treatment? But these things are overlooked by Allopathia. Disease is a force—hence it must be met by a force—no matter whether the force is calculated by its nature or its direction to check the diseased force, or to coincide with and thus increase it: if it is a *force*, that is enough. This is well set forth by Dr. Maunsell, who though an Allopathist, is a very sensible one, at least on this point. Speaking of the violent treatment recommend-



ed by Dr. Armstrong, in Scarlet Fever, he says:

"Those, however, who read his essay carefully, will easily perceive that he was not free from misgivings as to his practice; and it is equally obvious, that he considered the mere circumstance of the disease being severe and violent, as sufficient sanction for the use of severe and violent remedies. Such a notion, though popular and common, is altogether inconsistent with an enlarged view of disease, and justifies the apologue of D'Alembert—the physician being then, truly, a blind man armed with a club, who, as chance directs the weight of his blow, will be certain of annihilating either nature or the disease. A fever being likely, by its violence, to produce speedy death, is no palliation of the guilt of a physician who administers a medicine in poisonous doses, even though he may be ingenious enough to construct a theory explaining, satisfactory to himself, the *secundum artem* character of the murder he commits;" and in a note he adds, "For such practitioners we know no better advice than that of the judicious Huxham—'at least to peruse the sixth commandment.'" This we insert for the benefit of Allopathists whose memory may be treacherous, or to whom a reference might be inconvenient:—

"THOU SHALT NOT KILL"

N. W. Jour. of Hom.

### HOMŒOPATHY IN LONDON.

We perceive by the late European papers that Homœopathy was making as rapid strides in London as it is in this country and on the Continent. The following from the *London Morning Post*, the special organ of the court and aristocracy, looks rather blue for old Saddlebags and Pillbox:

**HOMŒOPATHY IN CHOLERA.**—It is proposed to establish forthwith one hospital at least (more, if the donations be sufficient) either in Lambeth, Bermondsey, or Newington, for the Homœopathic treatment of cholera—a treatment which has been proved to be most eminently successful.

Douglas Jerrold's *Weekly News* also publishes a letter signed by Graf Von Viettinghoff, stating that cholera is created by the pullulation of insects (*Musca carnivora*), whose eggs are introduced into men's intestines by atmosphere and water—recommending *camphor* as a sovereign remedy against cholera, upon the principle that camphor possesses antiseptic, antifermentiscible and concretive property. The late Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of the Homœopathic law of treating, recommended also camphor as a specific remedy in the first stage of cholera, because camphor, tried repeatedly upon healthy human subjects, produced invariably symptoms very closely corre-

sponding with those of the first stage of cholera, and he saved many thousands by timely application of camphor internally and externally.

In Vienna, Hungary, and Poland the Homœopathic treatment is stated to have saved hundreds of thousands of lives, while, under the 'regular' practice of colomel, opium, &c., &c., the population died off like sheep. In France, where the 'regular' practice of medicine has certainly reached its highest perfection, the physicians—or such of them as would not adopt the Homœopathic remedies—gave up treatment pretty much in despair, and let nature take her course. In this way, doubtless, many lives were saved; although, in the great majority of cases, cholera is a disease that must be speedily arrested by a specific adapted to the peculiar symptoms, or the patient dies. Of all the nostrums and innumerable doses compounded for the cholera, we believe it has now been decided that the 'regular' Allopathic treatment—colomel and opium—is decidedly the worst. And yet, during the last season, when cholera was raging in our midst, and the old-school physicians were paralyzed and helpless before the scourge—the hospital reports showing an average loss of *more than half* of all the cases reported—yet the Common Council turned up its nose in contempt at the application of respectable citizens to appoint Homœopathic physicians to at least one of the hospitals—to do, in fact, what the corporation to London has already done—and this too in the face of the fact that authentic reports of Homœopathic physicians showed a loss of less than twelve per cent. or *one eighth* of the cases treated by them.

How is this to be accounted for? Easily enough. The 'medical Counsel' of the Board of Health—a set of respectable men, but utterly ignorant of the science of health and disease—were all bitter Allopathists, yes, bitter as aloe, and malignant as a blister-plaster. Sooner than have dared to make themselves instrumental in establishing a public test between Allopathy and Homœopathy in the treatment of cholera, they would have seen the city decimated by the invisible sword of the destroyer. And in this they were but carrying out the principles of the 'regular' medical schools, colleges and institutions, which every year turn out their hundred of vampires to literally fatten upon the blood of the community.

We say it is high time that this nefarious system of suppressing vital discoveries in the science of healing diseases should be broken up, and that the medical monopoly, which has so long existed upon the credulity, the fears and the ignorance of mankind, should be broken up. There are now already in New-York over fifty Homœopathic physicians of good standing, and who have received their diplomas from established schools. They embrace in their number a large amount of the medical knowledge, skill and experience in the city: and as to practice, it is perfectly immense—including all classes and conditions. Now, is it rational, is it



decent—that the existence of this great and most successful practical school of medicine shall be utterly overlooked by the professional insolence of a rival school which justly fears its power? Is this not a clear and palpable violation, not only of the spirit but the letter of its duties, by the Medical Counsel of our Board of Health? We do sincerely trust that the approaching winter in Albany will not pass away without somebody being found courageous enough to bring this subject forward, in the face of the whole squadron of lancets, boluses, cataplasms and catheters, and push it home to the conscience of the whole body of our public legislators. The time for sneering at Homœopathy, or attempting the ridiculous farce of ignoring its existence, is long ago past by.—*S. Courier.*

## PRACTICAL REMARKS.

BY DR. W. HUBER.

EVERY practitioner must have felt how much the difficulty of getting up cases in a complete manner has been increased by the radical changes which diagnosis has undergone in recent times. I believe we are to account in this way for the paucity of practical communications in our Homœopathic literature. But ought the solid results of experience in the treatment of diseases to be lost, because not in every instance grounded on anatomical or chemical pathology? Are the new diagnostic helps perfected to such a pitch as always to lead us to the conclusion we are seeking? The scientific practitioner meets daily, in greatest number, with cases in which these boasted sciences leave him altogether in the dark. I hold every Homœopathic physician bound to avail himself of these methods of diagnosis; but to *cure* is, and ever will be, his chief and highest duty. Therapeutics is the crowning summit of medicine; it is the end to which other medical sciences are the means. Let us, therefore, not imitate our opponents in these latter years, who, in their zealous pursuit of the tributary sciences, assign a subordinate position to the capital one of therapeutics. Whence may this indifference to, or disbelief in, the art of healing among them arise?

I trace it to the new fundamental principle, "Nature alone cures," for which they have latterly discarded the old one, "Contraria contrariis." And they look to this first principle alone, when they might walk in the light of one subordinated to it. In no science has the word "Nature," "power of Nature," been more misapplied than in medicine. It is the stalking-horse to which every idea, even the most extravagant, is yoked, as it is impossible to appeal from it. But when we consider that the *vis naturæ medicatrix* and its essence are above our comprehension, and is subjectively modified by each one according to his

own turn of mind, we shall perceive the impossibility of making any use of it as an objective reality in practice. Europeans paint the devil black, the Negroes vote him white, and both allege his nature as an argument, and will continue to do so as long as they dwell in the region of imagination.

The *vis medicatrix* is something seated in the sick man himself, and can never become the foundation of an objective and practical science, since no propositions or conclusions are deducible from it. I do not deny—that every school tacitly admits—that the remedial power of nature constitutes a ground for the subjective possibility of a cure, but it is not the only one, nor in practice is it the chief one.

The proposition: Nature produces, Nature sustains; therefore Nature can likewise cure, acquires an altered significance when we consider that these internal processes are connected with certain necessary conditions by which they are determined, limited and modified. But if this subjective tendency be made of importance greater than naturally belongs to it, and clothed with the absolute and supreme attributes of a first principle, nothing but injury can accrue to the therapeutic system thence derived, as experience has amply proved; indeed remedies appear, according to it, completely superfluous, this first principle repelling all impressions by therapeutic agents.

It is far different with our law of similars. It is deduced from the specific relations exhibited by the body to medicinal agents; it is verified by the healing power evinced by them in diseases of similar nature, and thus rests on an objective experimental basis, and is as closely related to therapeutics as the fountain is to the stream, and from its practical utility takes the foremost rank among the truths of scientific therapeutics. The law of similars does not exclude the *vis medicatrix naturæ*, but rather goes hand in hand with it in harmonious conjunction; they are not contradictory but complimentary to each other; they support and bear out each other, since they have a common direction and a common proceeding to one end by similar processes. In like manner as the internal processes by which the organism grows and maintains its structures, possess no self-sustained and absolute all-powerfulness, but are subject to multifarious outward influences, even so the favorable result or cure does not always and exclusively depend on the curative force of nature, but is often determined by outward influences or remedies. Thus we see that the law of similars does not infringe on the rights of the curative power of nature, that it does not abandon the sick to a relentless fate, that it exalts the character of the physician, and satisfies his conscience by opening to him a wide field for positive action, the careful cultivation of which must be the chief business of the Homœopathic practitioner. Next to physiological provings of medicines, it is by bedside experience that advance is to be made.



As so many additions are now yearly made to the number of students of Homœopathy, who loudly call for an introduction to the practice of the system, and as yet there are no public *cliniques* in which Homœopathy might become attainable by every practitioner who loves the beneficent art; in the meantime, practical results obtained at the bed-side form the most adequate means of acquiring a knowledge of the system. With this idea I resolved to publish a few cases for the use of beginners in this study, that I might at all events lighten their difficulties, more or less. This essay, doubtless, is very imperfect, and offers little to interest the advanced Homœopathist; but if it puts a clue into the hand of a few young learners to guide them in their toilsome path, my end will be answered.

I shall divide the following cases, for convenience' sake, into five groups: Inflammations, Fevers, Cachexiæ, Nervous Affections, and Profluvia.

#### A. INFLAMMATIONS.

##### I.—Tonsillitis.

Josepha Hubinger, æt. 19, fair, of sanguine temperament, of delicate appearance, properly menstruated; she had a bilious fever some years ago. On January 12th, 1846, in consequence of catching cold at church, she shivered strongly for two hours in the evening, then came on general heat, headache, strong thirst, and *sore throat*; lassitude and fatigue felt all over her, which obliged her to go to bed. Next morning the state of the patient was as follows: pressive and shooting frontal headache, heaviness and confusion of the whole head, *photophobia*, tongue rather white, unpleasant slimy taste, much thirst, want of appetite, a little nausea, sometimes inclination to vomit; *deglutition very difficult, with shooting pain in the throat*; constant need to swallow; *tonsils very dark, red and swollen*, especially the right one; great feeling of *dryness in the throat, and hard palate*; abdomen and fæces normal; urine scanty, dark red, without sediment; the thoracic organs normal; skin dry and warm; pulse feverishly excited, at 100, and tense; extreme exhaustion; disturbed sleep; anxious state of mind.

*Treatment*.—Bell. 3d dil. a drop every third hour in a table-spoonful of water.

Jan. 13th, in the evening.—Increase of the fever and all the symptoms; a sleepless night.

Jan. 14th.—There is not the least trace either of the fever or the other symptoms; the appetite is returned. No more medicine was given. The lassitude left by the attack was quite gone in two days' time.

##### II.—Bronchitis.

Rosina König, æt. 26, unmarried, of sanguine temperament and tolerably robust, has always been regularly menstruated, and has

never been ill. On the 15th February, 1846, in consequence of a chill while at work, was attacked with shiverings lasting several hours, followed by heat, headache, thirst, and disgust to food. Then a shaking *dry cough* came on, with feeling of rawness in the upper part of the chest; the cough was sometimes spasmodic, and brought on vomiting, lassitude and fatigue of the whole body, obliging her to stay in bed. Various allopathic remedies were fruitlessly employed, and the cough increased in severity, with streaks of blood in the expectoration, up to Feb. 28th, when the symptoms were as follows: shooting pain in the forehead; *swelling and redness* of the face, with burning *heat of head*; the nose dry and stopped up; the tongue loaded with yellowish-white fur; great thirst; mawkish taste; no appetite; constipation; urine scanty, *burning*, and of a *fiery red*; *violent cough*, especially at night, with expectoration of thin gelatinous mucus mixed with dark brown clotted blood. Inspection of the thorax and percussion showed nothing abnormal; on auscultation there was found all over the chest *decided vesicular breathing*, and here and there *mucous rales*, especially over the right lung; heart normal; respiration not much impeded; slight oppression on the chest; *skin very dry and hot*; *pulse rapid*, beating 80 to the minute, *full and very hard*. The headache, heat of skin, and cough usually got worse in the evening. Sleep short—disturbed; feeling of sickness, and anxious state of mind.

*Treatment*.—Aconite 3, a drop every third hour, in a table-spoonful of water.

1st March.—No change in the general state.

From 2d to 4th.—Great diminution of the fever; pulse 70; thirst and heat of skin much less; cough less violent, generally dry, no heat of blood. The febrile symptoms were felt in an increased degree for a few hours before midnight, but not to the same degree as formerly.

On the 4th, after a slight exacerbation, a general and abundant sweating came on about 5 p. m., and lasted during sleep almost the whole night, after which the patient woke with a genial sense of decided improvement in her state.

On the morning of the 5th, her head was free from pain; tongue loaded and moist; appetite beginning to return; thirst gone; fæces *normal*; urine abundant and cloudy, a quantity of brick-colored sediment; cough easy, with loose mucous expectoration without blood. Strong mucous rales in the branches of the right bronchus; skin moist all over and pleasantly warm; pulse at 65, soft and swelling.

On the 6th March.—*No trace of fever*. On account of the mawkish taste, and considerably increased expectoration of mucus, I discontinued Aconite and gave Dulcamara 2, in the same manner. In five days more the bad taste, mucous rales, cough and expectoration



had quite disappeared, and the patient was left in her former state of health.

### III.—*Pneumonia.*

Charles Reitinger, æt. 17, unmarried, rather robust, of sanguine temperament, had always since his youth been healthy, with the exception of an eruption on the scalp. On 1st March, 1846, without assignable cause he was attacked with headache, giddiness, nausea, and vomiting of food; then strong shivering for two hours, followed by heat, thirst, difficulty in breathing, tired feeling, and languor of the whole system. After a sleepless night and the fever continuing, *cough with bloody sputa* came on, and he vomited several times a bitter fluid without feeling relieved.

3d March.—Giddiness; *heat; redness and puffiness of the face*; white tongue; bitter taste; *great thirst*; no appetite; tenderness of the pit of the stomach, but not of the rest of the abdomen; no stool since yesterday's; *urine red, scanty*; frequent *cough*, with a *little expectoration* of tough, transparent, greenish mucus, mixed with *bloody and rust-colored particles*; feeling of weight on the chest, with *short and anxious respiration*; dulness on percussion over the left inferior scapular region. The stethoscope applied in this part revealed strong bronchophony and bronchial respiration, combined with a good deal of rattling of mucus. Sound of heart normal; *skin dry and hot*; *pulse accelerated to 95 beats per minute, and hard*; sleep disturbed; much lassitude; anxious frame of mind. The fever and its concomitants were exacerbated a little in the evening and forenoon.

*Treatment.*—Aconite 1, a drop every three hours in water.

3d March, morning.—No change, but there was no increase of fever in the evening, and a quiet sleep, with copious general sweat came on.

4th March, morning.—Decided improvement; head free; eruption of *hydra febrilis*, on the upper lip; no thirst; skin moist and cooler; pulse soft, and fallen to 65; breathing easier; cough, expectoration, and auscultatory signs unaltered. In the evening, after a short and trifling aggravation of the fever, he fell asleep, and slept in a state of perspiration all night.

5th March, morning.—The patient is quite free from fever, and his head from pain; skin had become cool, and his tongue clean; he can taste better, is not thirsty, and can eat a little; the epigastrium may be pressed on without giving pain; the bowels open, the urine cloudy and sufficiently copious with a good deal of flocculent deposit of a light red color. Reitinger could now breathe freely, but coughed often and easily brought up a quantity of phlegm, which might be drawn into long strings. Loud rattling in the left side of the chest. The temperature of the skin and the pulse now perfectly natural. No medicine.

From 5th to 7th March, he got rid of the whole of the fibrine that had exuded into the cells of the lungs, by expectoration; the cough and auscultatory signs gradually disappeared, and on the 8th nothing but vesicular breathing could be discovered in any part of the chest. The patient had lost so little strength as to be able to resume his occupation on the 9th.—*Oest. Zeitsch. f. Hom.*

(To be Continued.)

### For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

DEAR SIR:—When the existence of the Cholera was first admitted among us, the Board of Health sent a circular to each medical man, requiring him to report his cases, daily, with [results, but the enormous number of cases reported by some, with hardly any deaths, rendered the whole thing so ridiculous, that the others ceased to report, and no record was kept excepting of the deaths, as furnished by the grave-yard keepers, amounting in all to 1158; 588 of which were from Cholera. The epidemic prevailed about 71 days, from the beginning of July to the end of September. I believe it is generally admitted that over 50 per cent. of all attacked died, whether treated allopathically, or domestically, or not at all. In addition to a large amount of diarrhœa and dysentery, 45 cases of decided Cholera, were treated by my colleague, Dr. B., and myself; of which 39 recovered, and 6 died. They were of all classes in society, and in every stage of development. Without occupying your space with unnecessary details, I may state generally that all who died, as well as several of those who recovered, were treated under the most unfavorable circumstances. We also supply the most of our patients, and a number of those formerly opposed to our system, with the remedies, and prophylactics, several of whom have reported cures; and although not invariably, we have reason to think the *Veratrum* and *Cuprum Aceticum*, have proved a protection. We were employed by Ira Gould, Esq., of the City Mills, one of those practical philanthropists, of whom every community yields a few, to visit his establishment daily and prescribe for the workmen and their families; the number of hands employed was 20, of whom 9 had families, in all amounting to 30 more, they all took the prophylactics regularly, and had the remedies at hand, which were in all cases freely administered by Mr. Wilson, the

head miller, till we could be procured. The result was 5 cases of cholera, with several of diarrhœa and dysentery, without any death. Another gentleman, Mr. Holiday, who had 20 hands employed in coopering, of whom 17 had families, was induced to follow Mr. Gould's example with a result still better, viz.: 1 case of cholera with several of diarrhœa and other diseases, and no deaths.

I remain, my dear sir,

Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR FISHER, M. D.

Montreal, Oct. 23, 1849. -

DR. W. E. PAYNE, of Bath, Me., (Homœopath,) and DR. SHAW, of the same place, (Allopath,) have had quite a spirited controversy on their respective systems of medicine, which is published in the "Northern Tribune." Dr. Shaw took an unwise course, in allowing himself to misrepresent established facts, in fallacious arguments, and in reiterating false accusations against Hahnemann's professional character; this, we are aware, is the usual custom of Allopathic writers, but they should reform their manners, or all Homœopaths would be warranted in withholding even ordinary courtesies to such lampooners. The inordinate self-esteem of many Allopaths will, after a while, work their ruin. Their contempt for the intelligence of the people on the practice of medicine will not aid in prolonging the existence of a destructive mode in the treatment of diseases. It is, however, but just to state, that as yet, with but one exception, not an able writer of the Allopathic school has attempted to disprove the doctrine of Hahnemann. Dr. Forbes is the only one who can lay claim to this honor, and he gave Allopathia the hardest blow she has received since the author of Homœopathia; but the small fry of his school could not appreciate his honesty, nor the clear view he took of the doctrine and practice of Allopathia; they raised a cry against him, and charged upon him unworthy motives, which is evidence under the circumstances, of their ignorance or dishonesty. The real talent of the old school have not, as yet, spoken of Homœopathia; only the light, vain, trifling and poetic branch of the profession have dared to exhibit their folly in opposition to our system. The men of mind, of education, and of experience, know too well the weakness of Allopathia to attempt

a direct written attack on Homœopathia; for if the latter is false, it is as good as the former.

Our patience is nearly exhausted at the twattle of those who are not qualified to express an opinion, of any value, on Homœopathia.

## HAHNEMANN AND HIS WIFE.

BY HELEN BERKLEY.

Who is Hahnemann? What is homœopathia? "The master-spirit of the age—the founder of the surest and safest system of medical treatment," exclaims his disciple. "The successful inventor of a fanciful and delusive mode of practice," retorts his opponent. Which are we to credit?

It is little more than half a century since Homœopathia was discovered; yet Hahnemann is a familiar name on every tongue, a venerated one on many. The bitterest enemies to the system which he founded yield their homage to his gigantic intellectual powers, revere his manifold virtues, and admit that his learning, his numerous philanthropic deeds, and above all, the elevated purity of his character, have ever preserved him against the imputation of charlatanism. Whether his principles be received or rejected, his talents, his originality, and his singular history must ever render him a subject of general interest.

In 1839 Dr. Hahnemann was residing in Paris near the Gardens of the Luxembourg. During the winter of that year, desiring to consult him in behalf of an invalid friend, I made him my first visit. That I might obtain an audience as early as possible, I entered the carriage which was to transport me to his residence, at a quarter past nine o'clock in the morning. After about half an hour's ride, finding that the coachman stopped his horses without dismounting, I inquired if we had reached our destination: "No, Madam; it is not our turn yet. We must wait a little while. See! there is Dr. Hahnemann's house," he replied, pointing to a palace-like mansion at some distance. This mansion was surrounded by a massy stone wall with an iron gate in the centre. Impatient at the delay, I leaned out of the window and beheld a long line of carriages in front of us, driving one by one through the gate, and out again, as fast their occupants alighted. This was vexatious, I had taken such especial pains to be early—and all to no purpose. But if there was any consolation to be found in the knowledge that others were even worse off than ourselves, I might have comforted myself by looking in the opposite direction. Behind us stretched a file of coaches, lengthening every minute, and already quite as formidable as the one in front. I had unconsciously taken my station in the midst of a procession slowly advancing to pay homage to this modern Æsculapius.



I already knew something of Hahnemann's celebrity; but my opinion of his skill was marvellously fortified as I stared behind me, and before me, and then to the empty carriages driving away around me.

In about twenty minutes the carriage in which I sat wondering and waiting, during that time having moved a few paces forward every minute, at last drove briskly through the iron gate, around the spacious court, and deposited me, to my great satisfaction, at the front entrance of Hahnemann's magnificent dwelling. Three or four liveried domestics, assembled in a large hall, received the visitors as they alighted, and conducted them to the foot of the wide staircase. At the head of the first flight they were received by a couple more of these bedizened gentlemen, who ushered them into an elegant saloon, sumptuously furnished, and opening into a number of less spacious apartments.

The saloon was occupied by fashionably-dressed ladies and gentlemen, children with their nurses, and here and there an invalid reposing on a velvet couch or embroidered ottoman. The unexpected throng, the noisy hum of whispering voices, the laughter of sportive children, and the absence of vacant seats, were somewhat confusing. I entered at the same moment with a lady, who, with her nurse and child, had alighted from her carriage immediately before myself. Probably noticing my bewildered air, and observing that I was a stranger, she very courteously turned to me and said in French: "We shall be able to find seats in some other room; permit me to show you the way." I thanked her gratefully and followed her. After passing through a suite of thronged apartments, she led the way to a tasteful little boudoir, which was only occupied by one or two persons.

I knew that the lady who had so kindly acted as my conductress, was a person of rank, for I had noticed the coat of arms on the panels of her coach and remarked that her attendants were clothed in livery. But to meet with civility from strangers is of so common occurrence in France, that her graciousness awakened in me no surprise. I subsequently learnt that she was the Countess de R——, a young Italian, who had married a French count of some importance in the *beau monde*.

We had hardly seated ourselves in the quiet little boudoir, when a valet entered, and politely demanded our cards. They were presented, and he placed them in the order received, amongst a large number in his hand. It was obvious that we should be obliged to wait an indefinite period; and I soon commenced amusing myself by examining the fine paintings with which the walls were lavishly decorated—the pieces of sculpture—the costly vases scattered about the apartments—and a number of curious medals, heaped upon the centre-table. The sculpture, vases, medals, and even some of the paintings, had been presented to Hahnemann as memorials of the esteem and grati-

tude of his patients. Every room contained several marble busts of Hahnemann himself, some much larger than life, some as large, and some smaller. These also had been presented to him on different occasions as tokens of respect.

I was standing before a most lifelike portrait of the great doctor, lost in admiration of its masterly execution, when the young countess, who had retained her seat while I wandered around the room, joined me and said: "Do you know who painted that picture?"

"No," I replied, "but although I am not a judge of art, I should almost venture to say that it was the work of a master's hand."

"Undoubtedly it is a masterly piece of workmanship. It was executed, however, by Madame Hahnemann."

"Madame Hahnemann! is it possible! Is Hahnemann married, then?"

"To be sure; and so happily, that to become acquainted with his domestic history is of itself almost enough to induce one to venture upon matrimony."

"I am delighted to hear it. I knew nothing of him except as a skilful physician, and a man of extraordinary genius."

"His private history is equally interesting, and quite as remarkable, as his public."

"Have you known him a great while? How old is he? How long has he been married?" questioned I, anxious to obtain all the information in my power.

"I have been acquainted with his wife and himself several years. He is about eighty-four years old. He was married to his present wife in his eightieth year."

"Indeed! Was he a widower then? Is his second wife young, or as old as himself?"

"She is about forty-five years his junior, and she still retains much of the vivacity and freshness of youth."

"What induced her to marry him?"

"Veneration for his talents—esteem for his virtues—affection for himself—mingled, perhaps, with a spice of gratitude for his services to herself. You are a stranger to her, and will laugh if I say she *adores* him, but the term is not too strong to convey an idea of the truth."

"Pray tell me something of her history. I am already deeply interested."

"With pleasure. Hahnemann is the father of the most united, prosperous, and the happiest family I ever beheld. He had been many years a widower, when he was called in to attend Mademoiselle D'Hervilly, who was pronounced by her physicians to be in the last stage of consumption. He was residing at the time in Coethen. Marie Melonie D'Hervilly-Gohier, then his patient and now his wife, is descended from a noble French family of immense wealth. She had suffered a number of years with a pulmonary affection and disease of the heart. The most eminent physicians in Europe had fruitlessly endeavored to benefit her. After passing the winter in Italy, whither



she had been sent in the hope that a mild climate might effect what medicine had failed to accomplish, she returned to Germany, in a state which her physicians declared beyond the reach of medical aid. She is a woman of remarkable strength of mind and most comprehensive intellect. The fame of Hahnemann's wonderful cures had reached her, but she was unacquainted with his reasons for his peculiar mode of practice. Though so debilitated by protracted suffering that she was unable to make the slightest physical exertion, she examined his system for herself, and then determined upon consulting him. He became deeply interested in her case, and in an incredibly short time her sufferings were relieved, her cough subdued, and her *disease of the heart* assumed a different and more agreeable shape."

"And she married him out of *gratitude*?"

"By no means; she was charmed with his genius, his character, his manners, every thing about him; and conceived an affection for him perhaps deeper and truer than the passion which we generally call love."

"Which he reciprocated?"

"Nay, you question too closely; I cannot answer on which side the attachment first sprang. Nor do I know any reason why it should not have originated in the doctor himself. Madame Hahnemann is a woman of the most brilliant talents; her information is extensive, her mind highly cultivated, and she is a proficient in almost every elegant accomplishment you can name. Combine these attractions with that of a prepossessing person, and you will not find it easy to imagine a man insensible to her charms."

"How do Hahnemann's children like the idea of step-mother?"

"She is tenderly beloved by them all. Her delicacy and generosity towards them are worthy of mention. Hahnemann had amassed a large fortune, which she refused even during his lifetime to share with him. She was determined to give no room for the supposition that she could have been influenced by interested motives in forming this union. She stipulated, before her marriage, that she should ever be excluded from any participation in the avails of Hahnemann's estate; and induced him to settle the bulk of his fortune on the children of his first wife, merely reserving for himself an annuity sufficient for his personal expenses."

"How then was she to be provided for?"

"She was already independent as to fortune."

"Madame Hahnemann must undoubtedly be a very talented woman, if this painting is hers, said I, resuming my examination of the fine portrait, which had first attracted my attention."

"Not only that one but several others in the larger apartments," replied Madame de R——. "Some of her paintings have even been admitted into the galleries of the Louvre."

Thus her name is classed with those of the most distinguished French artists. She is a poetess, too, and her works have won a truly flattering approbation from the public."

"A poetess! Where will her qualifications end?"

"I almost believe they have no end. She is mistress of five or six languages, which she both writes and speaks with ease and fluency."

"She appears to be worthy, indeed, of being the wife of Hahnemann."

"He thinks so, I assure you. He would not now find it so easy to dispense with her services."

"Is he infirm, then?"

"Not in the least. He has always enjoyed excellent health. His sight and hearing are unimpaired. His activity is remarkable. Even yet there are an elasticity in his movements and sprightliness in his manners which make you feel that something of youth has been left to him even in age. He would never remind you of the fable of the frog, whose discerning patients cried, 'Physician, cure thyself.'"

"Perhaps that is quite as remarkable as any thing you have told me about him; medical men generally look as though they needed, but feared to try, the effects of their own medicines. Since he is so active, I suppose it would be possible to induce him to visit a patient?"

"I do not think that could be easily accomplished. In a case of great peril, perhaps, you might obtain the services of his wife."

"His wife? Why surely ——"

(To be Continued.)

#### CIMEX LECTULARIUS.

DOCTOR KIRBY,—I think it worth while to call the attention of the practitioners of medicine to the *Cimex Lectularius*, as a remedy for intermittent fevers. During the last season I have found it effectual in whatever potency used, and have cured more than twenty of the worst kind of patients imaginable. The pathogenesis is found in the new *Symptomen-Codex*, and covers a very extensive ground. It is to be observed, however, that its effect is always more signal and sure, in cases which have become obstinate from abuse of Cinchona and other *specifics*, and have relapsed several times. In such cases I have never known it fail. I have usually, in quotidians, given one dose of two or three globules, just as the sweating is fairly set in, and the patient begins to feel somewhat more comfortable. In tertians, I have given it again in about twenty-four hours after the first dose. The first paroxysm after taking the remedy is generally much severer and earlier, but shorter. It generally ceases entirely after this aggravation, or diminishes gradually but rapidly, until it quite disappears. I have repeated it once in seven to fourteen days, afterward as a prophylactic; but when not thus repeated, and a slight return is threatened, a single dose will effectually cure it.

G.

Buffalo, Sept. 25, 1849.



## OBITUARY.

It is with unfeigned grief we announce the death of RALPH ALBERT SNOW, M. D. This sad event occurred on the 4th of October, 1849. Sometime since he moved from this city to Wilkesbarre, Pa., and very soon his practice became greatly extended in that unhealthy district at particular seasons, and the success which attended his labors necessarily accumulated a weight of business and care that pressed heavily upon a naturally feeble constitution. Under such circumstances we were not surprised to learn the melancholy result; a *typhus fever*, supervening upon exhaustion and over work. So earnest in his spirit, he did not feel the grasp of the grave disease that had invaded his system, but with a devotion peculiar to himself, stimulated by a profound conviction of the great importance of the medical reform in which he was engaged, he tasked from day to day to its uttermost, his steadily declining strength, which his increasing business seemed to demand, until at last he sunk upon his bed completely exhausted;—but to die. If he had thought less of his patients and less of his profession, Dr. Snow would have been living to this day.

Dr. Snow was a graduate of the medical department of the University of the city of New-York. He possessed good mental endowments, was of industrious habits in his profession, and an ardent advocate of pure Homœopathia. He was decidedly the most unselfish person we ever met with, and it appeared to us that his life was a series of unjust acts towards himself. For he was so devoted to the propagation of a true medical science and art, that human sufferings in disease might be mitigated or fully removed, that his private interests, seemingly, were to him a secondary consideration. Early in his professional career he adopted, through a conviction of their truth, the doctrine and practice of Hahnemann, and no one ever accused him of deviating from that system in the treatment of diseases. He was, in all respects, a consistent Homœopath. The *materia medica* was his daily study, and few excelled him in a knowledge of the pathogenesis of drugs. The investigation of chronic diseases suited his taste and his mind, and few have been more successful in that most difficult treatment. He saw, with unusual distinctness, the tendency of Allopathic practice to induce an

entailment of disease in the human system; and particularly did he urge that *quinine* was a frequent cause of the development of tubercular disease, and that such cases would be rapidly fatal, for no remedy, yet known, would even prolong life. The pernicious effects of drugs as employed by the people themselves and by Allopathic practitioners he carefully studied, and he often stated to his colleagues that it was a serious matter to administer medicine, and should not be done unless there were positively known indications. He often said to us, that pure Homœopathia, as taught by Hahnemann, if faithfully adhered to, would secure the confidence of the people in the system, and upon this depends its success.

In our opinion the Homœopathic school has lost one of her ablest members. We deeply sympathize with the people of Wilkesbarre in their loss. They had learned to appreciate his talents and usefulness; and their kind and incessant attentions to him during his sickness, and to his afflicted family, and the very large attendance at his funeral, show they regarded his death a public calamity to their town.

At a meeting of the Homœopathic Society of New-York, held Oct. 23d, 1849, B. F. Joslin, M. D., in the chair, the following resolutions, presented by S. R. Kirby, M. D., seconded by J. H. Allen, M. D., were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That in the death of Ralph Albert Snow, M. D., the "Homœopathic Society of New-York," has lost one of its ablest members.

Resolved, That in our late associate, Dr. R. A. Snow, we recognized a talented, industrious and skilful physician.

Resolved, That we, the members of this Society, hereby express to the widow, orphan children, brothers, sisters, and other relations of the deceased, our deep sympathy for the loss they, as well as ourselves, have sustained.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Society, R. A. Snow, M. D., lived and died a true disciple of the illustrious Hahnemann. In his last sickness, he demanded a solemn promise from his beloved wife, that should he lose his reason, none but a genuine homœopath should be allowed to prescribe for him.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the widow of the late Dr. Snow, and that they be published in the Evening Post, New-York Tribune, and the American Journal of Homœopathy.

B. F. BOWERS, M. D.,

Secretary.

## ANOTHER MODE OF RAISING THE WIND.

WE heard the other day a funny story running in this wise: A couple of gentlemen from the South came to Gotham—one to have an operation performed on the throat, and the other to bear him company. The job was duly accomplished, the sufferer laid by to recreate, and the two bowed merrily on; till, in one of their stated visits to the worthy practitioner, that individual turns upon the *well* man and gravely tells him something is the matter with him too—ending with a strong recommendation that he also should be operated on! “Do you experience no trouble,” anxiously inquires the man of steel, “from those unpleasant symptoms.” “What!—how?—*what* symptoms?” says the other. “I don’t know, really, that anything ails me!” “Ah! my dear Sir,” rejoins the querist, “you are not aware of the extent of the malady. I assure you that your health will be greatly benefitted if my advice is followed.” The victim did n’t know exactly what to make of it—but supposing that the Doctor knew better than he, consented; and the overjoyed practitioner instantly carves out a goodly-sized portion of the man’s *palate*, telling him that he will now find speech, etc., much more free and comfortable than ever before—and winds up by presenting to the astonished man’s vision a bill of \$15, for services rendered! The demand was paid with but a bad grace, it must be confessed, and the unlucky wight so “taken in and done for,” went about his business a little the wiser for his taste of the tricks of the trade in New-York. Reader! as long as you can prevent it, never suffer a “Doctor,” or anybody else, to cut your throat until you *know* that something is the matter with it.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The above is no fancy sketch, but a fact. Allopaths have a right, we suppose, on account of their pretended *legitimacy*, to monopolize the humbuggery in medicine, and no one, as they think, ought to complain. It is now the fashion in this city to cut off tonsils and uvulas, for what purpose we are not advised, perhaps to improve the voice. Lunar caustic is in great demand among us, and hundreds daily submit to be burnt with it in the throat, to cure *bronchitis* as is alleged, but of all the “humbugs” in medicine of this age, none will compare with this, yet it will have its day. To cure a genuine *bronchitis* by caustic applications cannot be done, and whoever expects to do so, knows very little of the nature of that disease. The day for the doctrine of local diseases has passed, and any treatment founded upon it, will fail.

Did the Creator intend tonsils and uvulas to be of any use? The practice of the day indicates that Allopaths think not.

## HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Session of 1849-50. Lectures will commence on the first Monday of October, and continue until the first of March ensuing, and will be delivered under the following arrangement.

*Materia Medica and Therapeutics*, by CALEB B. MATTHEWS, M. D.

*Homœopathic Institutes and the Practice of Medicine*, by WILLIAM S. HELMUTH, M. D.

*Botany and Medical Jurisprudence*, by SAMUEL FREEDLEY, M. D.

*Clinical Medicine*, by CHARLES NEIDHARD, M. D.

*Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children*, by WALTER WILLIAMSON, M. D.

*Physiology and Pathology*, by ALVAN E. SMALL, M. D.

*Chemistry and Toxicology*, by MATTHEW SEMPLE, M. D.

*Surgery*, by FRANCIS SIMS, M. D.

*Anatomy*, by WILLIAM A. GARDINER, M. D.

Clinical instruction in Medicine and Surgery, given at the Dispensary connected with the College, daily.—Students who have attended one or more full courses of instruction in other medical schools, may become candidates for graduation, by attendance upon one full course in this school.

Amount of fees for a full course of lectures, \$100,00

Matriculation fee, paid only once, - 5,00

Practical Anatomy, - - - 10,00

Graduation fee, - - - 30,00

Students who have attended two full courses in other schools, - - - 30,00.

The Commencement will take place early in March.

W. WILLIAMSON, M. D., *Dean*,  
No. 80 North 11th St., Phila.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.

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# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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NO. 8.

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER, 1849.

THE CHOLERA, THE BOARD OF
HEALTH, THE MEDICAL COUN-
SEL, AND HOMŒOPATHIA.

The public has not yet forgotten nor ceased to lament the terrific scourge which swept over our city during the past summer, carrying off more than eight thousand of our fellow citizens in the short space of two months. There was one event connected with that fearful period of pestilence and death to which the attention of the public must now be recalled, and which is of a nature to excite the severest indignation towards those who had the health of the city specially in charge. We allude to the sneering and contemptuous rejection by the Sanatory Committee of the Board of Health of the petition of a large number of highly respectable citizens for the establishment of a Homœopathic Hospital for the treatment and cure of cholera. Like the refusal of a commanding officer in the midst of a battle to supply with ammunition a gallant battalion against

which the demon of jealousy has inspired him with ill-will, it was an act against which the circumstances did not allow *at the time* so much as a protest, and the tyrannical injustice of which was, for that reason, only the more outrageous. Those who were betrayed by their superior in command had nothing left for it but to fight on under every disadvantage, and bide their time after the struggle was over for arraigning their faithless superior in command before the proper tribunal.

The smoke of the battle is now dissipated. The direful encounter has ceased. We have all had time to recover our breath to look about us and calculate the chances of the result had it been fought upon different principles. We have time, too, to prefer our charges against the unfaithful officer to whose invidious conduct no impartial man can fail to attribute a great portion of the disasters of the engagement. To drop the figure, we have now an opportunity for the first time, to bring before the public attention and to present in its true light an act of official injustice and oppression on the part of the Sanatory Committee, which has few parallels in the history of official assumption.

We have waited patiently the publication of the Report of the Sanatory Committee of the Board of Health in order that we might know their ground of defence for their apparent denial of an unquestionable right. That report is now before the public and we copy from it their own version of the transaction. The following is the passage which relates to the subject.

On the 14th day of June, a petition was sent in to the Board of Health, requesting the establishment of a cholera hospital, in which patients might be treated on the homœopathic plan. This petition having been referred to the Sanatory Committee, was by them again referred to the medical counsel, by whom the following report was made :

NEW YORK, JUNE 19th, 1849.

A resolution having been offered to the Board of Health, 'that a hospital for the reception of cholera patients be established in this city, in which the practice of homœopathic physicians shall be pursued,' and the same having been referred by the Sanatory Committee to the Medical Counsel, the undersigned state that should the above resolution be adopted, they see no satisfactory reason why the same courtesy should not be extended to the Hydropathists—the Thompsonians—the Chrono-thermalists, and indeed all others claiming to have specific modes of treating the cholera.

By intelligent and well educated physicians generally, homœopathy is looked upon as a species of empiricism. It is neither practised by them, nor countenanced by them. Concurring entirely with their professional brethren on this subject, the undersigned conceive that the public authorities of our city would not consult either their own dignity or the public good, by lending the sanction of their name or influence to homœopathy or any other irregular mode of practice.

JOHN B. BECK, M. D.,
 JOSEPH M. SMITH, M. D.,
 SAMUEL W. MOORE, M. D., } *Medical Counsel.*

SETH GEER, M. D., *Resident Physician.*

RICH. L. MORRIS, M.D., *Health Commissioner.*

In adopting this report, the Sanatory Committee did not wish to be considered as expressing any opinion either in favor or against what is commonly denominated homœopathy. This they viewed as a subject entirely beyond their province. In executing a great public trust, however, which had been committed to their hands, they did not feel that they had the right of arraying themselves against any of the existing institutions of the community for whom they were acting. However defective these institutions might be, it was not for them to set about the work of reform. In looking round, accordingly, they found the medical profession existing in a certain form, exercising certain rights and privileges conceded by law, and recognized by long usage and general suffrage. The medical profession was, in fact, one of the legitimate divisions into which society had resolved itself, and for the performance of the most important functions subservient to the public good. Taking this view of the subject, the Committee felt it to be their duty to have nothing to do with medicine, except as they found it embodied in what is understood and known both by the public, as well as physicians, as the regular profession. While in this way they paid all suitable respect to so honorable a profession as that of medicine, the Committee felt that they did no injustice to those who suppose themselves in advance of the age, and profess themselves gifted with superior knowledge and wisdom.

The facts in relation to this subject are these: there are now more than FIFTY homœopathic physicians in full practice in the city of New-York, sustained by the various

classes of society, including at the very least a proportion of the wealthy, intelligent and respectable classes of the community quite equal to those which are to be found among the patrons of the old school. These physicians are all, without exception, regularly educated and graduated from the ordinary medical schools and colleges, with their diplomas signed, sealed, and delivered, with the same orthodox regularity as those physicians of the other branch of the profession called Allopathists. Many of them hold diplomas signed by members of the very Medical Counsel, upon whose dictum the attempt is now made to pronounce them quacks. They differ from the old school only in relation to the law of cure, which is a single branch of professional learning, and not more widely upon that than different sects among Allopathists differ from each other. The disciples of Brown and of Broussais, are, if possible, wider apart upon this subject than the disciples of Hahnemann are from either.

The friends of the Homœopathic practice in this city had, long previously to the advent of the cholera, established a city dispensary, at which all kinds of diseases were treated. The statistics of this institution, which were always open to public investigation, were a triumphant argument in favor of Homœopathy, and concurred with that universal current of statistics from all parts of the world, which has demonstrated the superiority of the new over the old practice, and is rapidly substituting the one for the other.

But in cholera especially, the disparity in the results of the two systems is enormous. In Cincinnati and St. Louis, where the epidemic raged most fearfully, the per centage of deaths, under Homœopathic treatment, was only *one-third of one per cent.*, or *one in three hundred*, while, under the old treatment, of all sorts, the loss was *sixty per cent.*, or *sixty in one hundred*.

Fortified by facts like these, and by their own knowledge of the benign and happy effects of Homœopathy in their own persons, and among their own families and friends, a large number of citizens, including many of the most respectable and distinguished gentlemen of the city, petitioned the Board of Health that some one of the Cholera Hospitals of the city might be put under the administration of Homœopathic practitioners. The petition was referred to the Sanatory Committee, and by them to

the Medical Counsel, consisting entirely of Allopathic physicians.

The Medical Counsel advised against granting the petition. Considering the weaknesses of human nature, this was almost a matter of course. One excuses the tenacity with which the adherents of an old and exploded theory stick to the dead carcass, and reject a new and living form of truth, when we know that it was more than one hundred years before "intelligent and well-educated physicians generally" would adopt the simple process of tying an artery with a ligature, suggested by Ambrose Parré as a substitute for the old and barbarous system of searing the bleeding stump of a limb with a hot iron; and that not one member of the profession, who had reached the age of forty years, cotemporaries of Harvey, that did not die opposing his theory of the circulation of the blood, which is now universally adopted. Fortified by such illustrious examples of "regular" professional stupidity, the gentlemen of our Medical Counsel may, perhaps, successfully defy the world to convict them of anything unprofessional or irregular in their part of the procedure. Aside from such high authorities, we should have thought that the proposition to establish a hospital, to test, in so rapid and fearful a disease as cholera, the pretensions of a system which they take constant pains to represent as utterly inert, would have delighted our medical brethren of the old school. It is a pity that their sense of dignity stood in the way of their making a trial, which might have silenced at once and for ever the advocates of the new practice. The public, however, may be safely left to judge whether it was their sense of dignity alone, or their fear of the results of a trial of the two systems, brought into such direct and immediate comparison, which dictated their discourteous advice to the Sanatory Committee.

It is not of the Medical Counsel that we wish now to speak. They were in the position of the lawyer, whose sympathy for his client may warp his perception of justice, and even lead him, by over zeal, to mismanage his cause; but the Sanatory Committee were in the position of the judge, from whom all parties had the right to claim and to expect impartiality and justice. They were embodied, to use their own language, for the execution of "a great public trust." Let us see, then, with what fidelity they have executed it. We have said there are fifty regular Homœopathic physicians

in the city. Supposing only one thousand persons contributing to the support of each physician, we have no less than 50,000 persons in New-York who believe, upon the strength of evidence which they do not question, and which cannot be disproved, that, in the case of an attack of the cholera, their chance of recovery is from ten to three hundred times greater for a recovery in the hands of a Homœopathic physician. A respectable number of men, representing the opinions of this body of 50,000 citizens, ask that a portion of the taxes which they pay for Cholera Hospitals may be appropriated to the management of a hospital, upon such a system that they, if attacked, can enter it with the hope of a recovery, and that they be not forced to enter, in their helplessness, a hospital where, in their belief, they are to be subjected to a fearful and an unnecessary amount of risk. The Sanatory Committee denied their request, on the ground that they, the Committee, cannot array themselves against any of "the existing institutions of the community." What institution? The institution of Allopathy? We never heard of any such. Is it the institution of the medical profession? Then, why not grant to the whole of that profession its rights; and we have shown that the Homœopathic physicians are as regular a part of that profession as any other. But all this is sheer nonsense. There is no such institution in existence which has any rights in the matter. We have never heard that there is a set of men in the community, who claim as a right to doctor the people, whether the people will or no, and to whom the people are regularly farmed out, as a source of revenue, by law. An existing institution, forsooth. We have heard of a "peculiar" institution at the South; but, if our Sanatory Committee be right, we have one still more peculiar in our midst. The simple question of fact is, have the people a right to be doctored by whom they choose, or is there an institution which has a prescriptive right to doctor them, and whose rights the Sanatory Committee is bound to preserve? Is their "great public trust" a trust for the people, or a trust for the benefit of some imaginary institution, having rights over the people? Undoubtedly, if they understood their trust at all rightly, it would be the former. As they understood it, it was clearly the latter.

The whole theory of our government is involved in this absurd claim of the Board of Health. Suppose the whole people of New-

York become satisfied of the superiority of Thompsonianism over every other kind of medical treatment, and they ask to have hospitals upon that plan. What is the institution of the Sanatory Committee that shall say their nay, on the ground that Thompsonianism is an irregularity. Suppose one half the people become so convinced, shall not the servants of the *whole* people provide for the wants of that half, as well as for those of the remaining half? To deny this, is to ignore the American doctrine of the rights of the people. The only question before the Sanatory Committee, therefore, properly was, what proportion of the people desire a Homœopathic hospital, and is it a sufficient proportion of the whole to entitle them to one or more out of the number of hospitals to be established? On either ground, therefore, the action of the Committee was oppressive and tyrannical, and their grounds for it untenable. If Homœopathy were the sheerest quackery in existence, if a sufficient number of the population required it, the Board of Health had no other "great public trust" in the matter than to provide it. To talk of protecting the interests of the existing institutions of society as against the wishes of their constituents, and that in such a manner as to subject a portion of those constituents, unwillingly, to a risk of death equal to sixty per cent., instead of a risk of one-third of one per cent., is an intolerable stretch of official dictation, not to speak of its cruel inhumanity. Such would be the case, as we have said, in the case of any amount of irregularity in the kind of practice; but, as we have already shown, the whole attempt to make Homœopathy figure as an irregular or empirical practice, outside of the regular profession, is a sheer assumption, unsustained by the facts. The Homœopathic physicians are men of equal learning with Allopathists, educated at the same schools, certified to by the same authorities, and patronized by as respectable and intelligent a section of the community. Is it not clear, therefore, that the Board of Health, in its action on this subject, not only committed a gross outrage upon the rights of a large portion of the citizens of New-York, but that the Sanatory Committee, in their report, to cover that injustice from the public apprehension by false assumptions, injurious to the fair fame of an educated and respectable branch of the medical profession.

It is not improbable that we may have another visitation of the cholera the next season.

Shall the 50,000 persons in this city, who believe that Homœopathic treatment reduces the dangers of this disease to a mere trifle, be allowed to be treated according to their own choice, or shall they be forced, in order not to interfere with "an existing institution," to swallow drugs and submit to barbarous practices, which, by the official confession of that "*institution*," make death more than an equal chance? We ask justice alone at the hands of the authorities. We do not ask that any one should be compelled to adopt Homœopathic treatment. We only protest against being compelled to adopt the Allopathic. Are our rights, as a portion of the tax-paying people, or the rights of the medical "*institution*," paramount?

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The Anniversary meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine (Allopathic) was celebrated last week by a public meeting, and an address by Dr. A. C. Post, who made a violent attack on Homœopathia, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing. It is remarkable that Allopathists have not yet learned that misrepresentations of Homœopathia cannot retard its progress. The New York Academy, we understand, is nearly defunct, not unexpected by those who can appreciate the spirit of the age.

(Continued from Page 107.)

PRACTICAL REMARKS.

BY DR. W. HUBER.

IV.—Pleuritis.

Maria Hager, æt. 20, unmarried, of sanguine temperament, and strong and regular in her periods. In her 16th year she was chlorotic, but quite healthy since. The present attack commenced without assignable cause on 2d January, 1846, with a diarrhœa which still continues. On 10th January she was attacked with violent shivering, then heat, thirst, headache, and shooting pain in the left side of the chest, difficulty of breathing, and extreme lassitude. Blood-letting, mustard poultices, and allopathic draughts which were employed for six days only increased the complaint. On the 17th, the state of the patient was as follows: oppressive pain in the head, with giddiness, red and turgid face, eyes sparkling and hot, with yellowish tinge of the sclerotic coat. Her tongue was yellow, she had a bitter taste in her mouth, no appetite, very strong thirst, sometimes nausea and vomiting of a bilious fluid, distention of the abdomen without pain, apparent enlargement of the spleen; since yesterday there have been five greenish liquid motions, unattended with pain. The urine was scanty, scalding, and *fiery red*. *Cough*, with expectoration of a quantity of *tough slimy mucus bespecked with small particles of blood*, *very great weight* on the chest, as if a weight

lay on it; the breathing was in the highest degree difficult, short, and anxious; she can only lie on her back. *Violent shooting pain* in the left side of the chest, especially on moving. On inspection, the thorax was found to have a bulging of its lower part on the left side; the intercostal spaces are very prominent outwardly in that quarter. On percussion, the left half of the chest was found to yield quite a dead sound, behind and at the side; at the posterior and inferior parts of the thorax, the respiratory movement could not be heard; a little higher up there was bronchial respiration and mucous rales, as well as bronchophony. The heart, which was displaced to the centre of the thorax, showed nothing abnormal in itself. The temperature of the skin was *burning hot*, with dryness, and *feverish pulse* at 90 beats, *full and hard*. The patient's sleep was very much disturbed, there was much bodily weakness and *anxiety of mind*. Notwithstanding this severe attack she had her menses for three days; they ceased to-day.

Treatment.—Aconite 1, a drop every three hours in water.

On the 17th and 18th there was no change, with the exception of aggravation in the evening.

On the 19th, in the morning, the violence of the fever is broken and the distress considerably relieved. No giddiness or headache, tongue rather cleaner, bitter taste, much thirst, no appetite, abdomen is no longer swollen, continuance of the diarrhœa, (four times since yesterday morning), urine as before; cough less frequent, sputa more easily brought up, and more abundant, without any appearance of blood, dyspnœa diminished, shooting pain less severe, but extending to the centre of the sternum. The pleuritic effusion appeared to be greater rather than less than before; the auscultatory signs unchanged. Skin moist and everywhere in a state of perspiration, the temperature not so burning hot. Pulse, 70 beats per minute. The improvement continued throughout the day, and the patient slept well at night in a profuse sweat.

On the 20th her state was the same. I discontinued *aconite*, and gave a drop of *bryonia alba* every three hours. From the 21st to the 23d the fever abated still more, the thirst disappeared, there was but one loose stool each day; much turbid urine was passed with whitish sediment; the cough, no longer convulsive, brought up a good deal of sticky phlegm and rarely a trace of blood. There was no longer any oppression on the chest, dyspnœa, or stitch in the side, even on motion; the skin was merely pleasantly warm, pulse softer, at 65, and sleep more composed; feeling of weakness continued. The physical signs were unaltered, except that there was more rattling sound, but less effusion.

From the 24th to the 26th this state of things continued. She began to feel some desire for food, the bitter taste disappeared and there was no diarrhœa; the urine was clear-

er and more plentiful; the expectoration was abundant and free from blood; the heart was returning to its normal situation, there was feeble bronchial respiration and much mucous rattling.

From the 27th to the 29th the patient continued to improve and become free from fever. Her strength increased daily; the expectoration diminished a good deal; the mucous rales disappeared; the breathing was more bronchial, but sharp and vesicular, with fine crepitation; the lower part of the left thorax is alone somewhat dull on percussion.

By the 1st of February all cough and expectoration were gone, the heart was in its proper situation; auscultation and percussion showed nothing abnormal; the left intercostal spaces were no longer protuberant; the patient could sleep well and felt so well as to be able to dispense with any further treatment.

V.—*Carditis*.

Franz Rad, æt. 19, a weaver, feeble, of sanguine temperament, has been free from disease since he was a child. Three weeks ago he was affected without known cause, with shivering, then heat, violent shootings in the right side of the chest, and *strong palpitation and dyspnœa*. He thinks he must have been working too hard. The shooting pain in the right side diminished in the course of these three weeks, but the dyspnœa and beating of the heart increased so much as to keep him from his work, and he began to cough and spit up, but only for a few days.

Feb. 21st. *Present state of the patient*.—Head free from pain; yesterday evening epistaxis from right nostril; tongue clean, much thirst, natural appetite and taste; the pit of the stomach and region of the liver are rather tender on pressure; fæces and urine normal; no cough; *heavy oppression of the chest, difficulty in breathing*; shooting pain in the right side of the chest, when lying on that side; *constant palpitation with anxiety, weight on the heart*, making him sigh frequently. On percussion, the dead sound indicating the subjacent texture of the heart was found on one side as far as the middle of the sternum, and on the other side, over an unusual extent of the left side of the thorax. *The impulse of the heart was very strong indeed*, striking against the ear with violence; in the left ventricle, instead of the usual sounds, there were blowing and rasping sounds accompanying both the systole and diastole. The sound which was heard with the diastole was particularly loud over the aortic valves, and was distinguishable, with diminished intensity, however, along its arch. The sound heard over the pulmonic valves was particularly sharp. *The skin was dry and hot; pulse much accelerated*, beating 100 in the minute, *full, strong*, and bounding against the finger; sleep disturbed with frequent crying out; very anxious; timorous state of mind.

Treatment.—Aconite 1, a drop every 2 hours in water.

In the night of the 21st Feb. he had the first good night's sleep he had enjoyed for some time. On the morning of the 22d, the impulse of the heart was felt to be much less and does not lift the ear during auscultation. In the afternoon his nose bled a little; auscultatory signs as they were. Night, sleep good.

Feb. 23d.—Much the same. Treatment, the same. All night patient slept peacefully, and perspired strongly.

Feb. 24th.—The *heart-stroke* is much softer and abated in strength; at night, sweating and good sleep.

Feb. 26th.—No change of any kind.

Feb. 27th.—He had nothing to complain of; the breathing, action of the heart and pulse are quite natural. *The noise over the aortic valves is gone*; there is only a little blowing murmur still heard over the mitral valve during the ventricular systole, but much feebler than before. The skin is cool, and all the functions normally performed. The same medicine was continued.

March 2d.—The mitral murmur has also disappeared over the left ventricle, the clicking sound accompanying both movements of the heart might be distinctly heard; the valves acted perfectly. The patient is beginning to be hungry again. The medicine continued.

March 3d.—On percussion I found the dull sound over the heart to be of normal extent. No medicine. In four days more the patient was well enough to resume work.

VI.—*Peritonitis.*

Susannah Mayer, æt. 30, an unmarried woman, of weakly constitution, of sanguine temperament, regularly menstruated, was chlorotic till after passing her 23d year, but has since been in good health. She menstruated 12 days since. The present attack came on March 12th, 1846, without any reason she can assign. She was at first cold, then hot and thirsty, bad headache, lost her appetite, tried to vomit, and passed some loose stools, with slight pain in the bowels. Thinking perhaps she had eaten something indigestible, she took a powder, bought at a druggist's, "for the wind and bile," containing jalap and cream of tartar. From the moment of her swallowing this mixture, the pain in the abdomen became more and more violent, and the surface became so tender that she could not endure to be touched ever so gently; the bowels were moved several times amid fearful sufferings, but this looseness was followed by complete constipation and frequent vomiting. Various allopathic remedies were tried without effect; the patient was always growing worse. On the 20th March, her state was as follows: *Face pale, and expression of fear and anxiety; shooting pain in the forehead, with heat of head; tongue moist, with yellowish-white coating; bitter taste; intense thirst; no appetite; frequent risings and inclination to vomit; vomiting of thin fluid, like verdigris, especially after taking food or drink; abdomen tympanitic and*

its whole extent unutterably painful on the slightest touch; *unremitting cutting and shooting pain in the bowels*, especially at night; obstinate constipation for several days past; urine *scanty, hot, and red*; respiratory organs and heart unaffected; skin *hot*, but moist; feet cold; pulse at 100, small, hard, and compressed; general debility; *sleeplessness*.

Treatment.—Aconite 1, a drop every second hour, in water.

In the night from the 20th to 21st, there was great aggravation of the pain in the abdomen; the patient kept screaming out most of the night, and vomited up a quantity of green, very bitter bile. The focus of the pain was at the umbilicus, from which it radiated over the whole abdomen to the interscapular and lumbar regions. No stool notwithstanding clysters of oil and water. Warm bandages increased the pain; cold ones gave trifling relief.

March 21st.—The vomiting and anxious feelings are better, and the pain seems rather less; in other respects there is no change. At night there was an aggravation, but slight, and without vomiting.

March 22d.—Some improvement; abdominal pain diminished, and chiefly felt when pressure is used; less tympanitis; patient has had a small knotty stool of a dark green color; urine scanty and fiery; skin dry, its temperature not very high; pulse 90. This state lasted till 6 p. m. from which time the pain gradually subsided, the patient fell into a sweet refreshing sleep, with general perspiration, which lasted all night.

March 23d.—The patient awoke this morning, free from pain; her head still somewhat painful about the forehead; eyes brighter; tongue coated yellow; no thirst; bitter taste; no appetite, but no nausea; abdomen soft and free from pain; no action of the bowels; urine still sparing in quantity, and cloudy; skin very moist; and pleasantly warm; pulse at 70, full, soft and swelling; she is cheerful, and slept quietly the night through.

March 24th.—Pulse no longer quick, but altogether normal. Appetite returning.

25th.—She is quite well, excepting a *bitter taste, belching of flatulence*, and constipation. At 8 in the evening she had rather a smart attack of *colic*; there was *cutting pain* in the small intestines, with periodical aggravation, which made her writhe like a worm; also *thirst, bitter taste, and inclination to vomit*.

26th.—*Treatment*—*Colocynth* 4, a drop of the tincture every third hour. During this day she had several slight attacks of colic. In the evening and night she had a return of the severe colicky pain, but this time it alternated with *drawing pain in the right hip-joint and thigh*, together with *stiffness and want of power* in the latter. Warm applications proved *grateful and soothing*.

27th.—The pain has now quite left the abdomen, but not the right hip-joint, in which it is still felt, now and then pretty severely. The first circumstance determined me to con-

tinue *colocynth*, though the latter might point to the employment of some other allied remedy. The propriety of my decision seemed confirmed by there being no colic or pain in the limb up to

1st April.—But on the *evening* of that day dreadful *pain in the bowels*, coming on at intervals, of a cutting kind and bending the sufferer forwards; it extended from the pit of the stomach to below the navel, and was at times extremely violent, so much so as to make her think she could not survive it; she sometimes sat up in bed, sometimes lay down, or threw herself from side to side. *The pain was alleviated by warm applications*. She had a bitter taste in her mouth; eructations; efforts to vomit; *pressure at the stomach*, as if a heavy stone lay there; difficult breathing; *distension of the abdomen* by wind; constipation; clear, straw-colored urine; skin moist and cool; pulse contracted, not feverish. The patient was irritated at the return of the complaint, and the non-success of the treatment. I discontinued *Colocynth* and gave her *Chamomile 2*, a drop every hour in water. In five hours the pain was quite gone; she fell into a quiet sleep, from which she awoke next morning cheerful and free from pain, of which she had no return. The bowels were moved properly and continued to be so daily, the bad taste was removed, appetite and sleep returned. By the 11th she was quite well.

VII.—*Psoitis*.

Anne Schwandtner, æt. 43, unmarried, thin, of choleric temperament, has been regularly menstruated since her 16th year, and has always enjoyed good health. On 4th Jan. 1846, in consequence of exposure to a draught when heated by exertion, she was suddenly seized with *violent shooting pain in the right lumbar region*, extending to the right breast and thigh, and preventing her from moving freely. Next day she had shiverings for an hour, followed by *heat, thirst*, and lassitude.

Jan. 9th.—the following is the state of the patient: Pressive headache and confusion in the head, such as is felt after a long sleep, mawkish taste; tongue white; great thirst; *frequent belchings of wind*; little appetite; *motions rather hard*; urine reddish, with brick-colored sediment. Slight dry cough; the thoracic organs normal. On pressure, or on *moving the body*, *violent electric-like shooting pains proceeding from the neighborhood of the right kidney* and going down to the groin and thigh of the same side. *She could not, for pain, raise herself, or rotate the limb*. Skin hot and moist; pulse at 90; sleep uneasy, from the fever *increasing in the evening and night*, and contentious dreams.

Treatment.—*Bryonia 3*, a drop every third hour in water.

Jan. 9th.—No change till night when the fever rose, and she complained of *drawing, shooting pain*, sometimes in the limbs, sometimes in the right shoulder.

Jan. 10th, in the morning.—No fever; no

pain in the thigh, which she could use with freedom. On pressing firmly on the regions of the ascending and descending colon, a little pain was still felt, otherwise the patient felt quite well. She slept well at night.

Jan. 11th.—No pain, even on pressure; good appetite; bowels regular; patient could leave her bed. No medicine was given. I saw the patient on the 24th, up to which time no relapse had taken place, and she appeared to enjoy excellent health.—*Æst. Zeit. f. Hom.*, IV. 2.

(To be continued.)

THE CHOLERA—ITS TREATMENT.

So much has been written on the cholera and its treatment, that a portion of our readers may regard it unnecessary to encumber the pages of this Journal with any thing more on that subject. But a friend of ours has written to us, and among other things, he has given the result of his observations, which embrace some points too valuable to be lost, therefore we make a permanent record of them.

—“The cholera season has been protracted here, to nearly four months. I have seen many cases myself, and my intimacy with the physicians of every school, has given me good opportunities to know how far Homœopathia has been successful. Every case treated Homœopathically, not only gave the physician new faith and confidence in himself, but also confirmed the favorable expectation of the community. And our physicians, unlike many of other schools, never refused to take patients, let the cases be ever so hopeless. True they lost some of those where the disease had progressed beyond the reach of all other remedies; but we can point out many, in the most desperate extremity, and some too, who had been drugged and stupified and given up by other physicians, on whom the Homœopathic treatment acted like a charm. Prophylactics (veratrum and cuprum) were put into the hands of almost every family that believed in them; and in no case where they were used according to directions has there been an attack of cholera. There were some who used every other preventive and finally fell into old school hands and died. This was to be expected. One man called on me, and protested he had used the prophylactics faithfully, but had also taken, during the preceding fortnight, two doses calomel, four doses laudanum, two doses castor oil, and one bottle botanical hot mixture, besides several other domestic remedies;

and expressed great dissatisfaction that the diarrhœa that now troubled him would not yield to *phos. acid.* On inquiry I found that he had the rice-water discharges, and every indication that vomiting was about to set in. I told him so, and recommended *Veratrum* and *Ipecac.*; but he would not take them; sent for a physician of the old school and took calomel, and died in about four hours.

"In cholérine, *Phos. acid* and *Phos.* have proved their title to confidence. In rice-water discharges, unaccompanied with vomiting or spasms, some say that *Iatroph.* 30, has done better than *Verat.* My experience, however, is in favor of the latter, not only in the 3d attenuation, but better in the 30th, and in one case of protracted discharges of starch or albuminous consistency, *Verat.* 200, produced a green stool in 20 minutes, and 20 minutes after, a copious, urinary discharge.

"*Ipecac.* in all cases, whether accompanied with nausea or not, where the pain or rumbling was seated above the umbilical region, has never failed to do all that could be asked, provided the patient kept still, and in a supine position. It matters not what potency.

"*Hydroc. acid* has been tried without any effect. Que.? Does not this remedy lose its effect by age, whether potentized or not?

"*Tabac.* has helped in many cases: *Arsenic* in but a very few: *Carb. veget.* has shown itself efficacious; but has seldom been indicated, except in some individual cases, where the rally could only be temporary, on account of excessive vital deficiency.

"I think that, where the physician has been of that caliber of mind which profits by observation, his impressions must be much more favorable to the high potencies in Cholera, than before this visitation; and much against repeating the remedy oftener than from four to eight hours, if at all. There have been cases in which the patient has gone right into a collapsed state with no cramps, little or no vomiting, and very few discharges of any kind. In these cases no remedy failed of producing some effect, if rightly applied; but no permanent effect could be realized. These cases have been very numerous in the old school practice.

"The disease has been very fatal among children, by terminating in congestion of the head. *Bell.* 30th, has always proved efficient when given in season; and with the help of *Hellebor.* has generally cured. These cases,

however, have been much prolonged, now and then, by *helminthiasis*; and sometimes, in spite of all treatment, (and in no cases more so than when too much treated) have terminated fatally.

"It is to be lamented that some concert of action could not have been made, so that the public could be favored with a full report of our treatment. But unfortunately such cannot be. Yet it cannot be denied that large gains upon the public confidence have been made by Homœopaths, under all discouragements."

The Cholera sicca, (dry Cholera) mentioned by our correspondent, yielded promptly in our hands to *Camphor* and *Ipecac.* During the late epidemic we had five cases, three yielded to the latter remedy, and two to the former. Slight nausea indicated the *Ipecac.* However, we regard this the most dangerous form of that disease, for death ensues, often in a very short period; sometimes the patient will be beyond the reach of the remedy in thirty minutes. Some of our wise ones in pathology in this city, mistook this fatal form of Cholera for a congestion of the lungs; we cannot say they were wrong in this, their error consisted in not recognizing the presence of Cholera.

HAHNEMANN AND HIS WIFE.

(Continued from page 110.)

At that moment our conversation was interrupted by the entrance of a lady. She was attired in a simple *demi-toilette* and wore no bonnet; I therefore concluded she was not a guest. The instant she entered, the delicate-looking child my new acquaintance had been caressing on her knee, sprang suddenly to the ground, and greeted the lady with expressions of the most affectionate joy. She was an elegant-looking woman, with a finely-rounded form, somewhat above the medium height. Her face could not be called beautiful, nor pretty, but the term handsome might be applied to it with great justice. Her forehead was full and high, and her hair thrown back in a manner which perfectly displayed its expansive proportions. Those luxuriant tresses of a bright flaxen hue, were partly gathered in a heavy knot at the back of her head, and partly fell in long ringlets behind her ears. Her complexion was of that clear but tintless description, which so strongly resembles alabaster. There was a thoughtful expression in her large blue eyes, which, but for the benignant smile on her lips, would have given a solemn aspect to her countenance.

She exchanged a few words with Madame de R——, kissed the child with much tenderness, and addressed several other persons present. While she was conversing, the child still retained her hand, following her about and pressing close to her side, with its little pale affectionate face upturned at every pause, as though silently soliciting a caress. In a few minutes she retired.

I turned to Madame de R——, and inquired,

"Is that Madame Hahnemann?"

"Yes; is she not a fine looking woman?"

"Undoubtedly. And from her appearance, alone, I can well imagine her endowed with many of the attributes you have described her as possessing.

Your little son appears very much attached to her?"

"Poor little fellow! he has good cause to be so. He had suffered from his birth with a scrofulous affection, which baffled the skill of the best medical men in Paris. They gave me no hope of his recovery, and he is my only child. At three years old he was unable to walk or even stand alone. It was then that Hahnemann arrived in Paris, and I immediately called upon him. It was impossible to bring the child here, without risking his life, and Hahnemann attends to no patients out of the house. Madame Hahnemann told me, however, not to be uneasy, as she would herself take charge of the boy. She visited him regularly twice a day, watched him with the anxious tenderness of a mother, and prescribed for him in a manner which proved the extent of her judgment and skill. In a few months the child recovered. He has never had a positive return of the disease, but he remains exceedingly delicate. I bring him to see his good friend and physician every few weeks for the sake of learning her opinion of his health and consulting her concerning his management."

"Do you mean that *Madame Hahnemann* prescribes for him on her own responsibility?"

"I do. She is almost as thoroughly acquainted with medicine as her husband. She became his pupil with the view of assisting him when age might weaken his faculties. She now attends to all his patients, as you will find directly; merely consulting him in cases of great difficulty."

"That is being a *help-mate*, indeed. But are patients always willing to trust her?"

"Assuredly; she has too incontestably proved her skill not to be trusted. Hahnemann is no longer able to undergo the fatigue of attending to the multiplicity of cases crowded upon him. Madame Hahnemann is universally confided in, respected, and beloved, especially by the poor."

"I can well believe it. Is Hahnemann assisted by any of his children in the same manner as by his wife?"

"Not exactly in the same manner, but still he is assisted by them. One of his daughters,

and a fine intelligent girl she is, has the sole superintendence of an enormous folio, containing the names of all his correspondents and the dates of their letters; also of several other folios, containing the letters themselves, arranged in alphabetical order. His other children are of service to him in various ways. To assist him is their chief delight. As I told you before, I never beheld a more united family."

"Miss Hahnemann's services alone, must spare the doctor a vast deal of trouble."

"Yes, but still every moment of his time is employed. He is the most systematic man imaginable. In his library you will find thirty-six quarto volumes, his register of consultation, written entirely by himself. Apropos his handwriting is really worth seeing. What do you think of a man, eighty-four years of age, who writes a hand firm as a man's ought to be, fine enough to be a woman's, and elegant enough to be traced on copper plate, and this without spectacles?"

"Think? Why, I think I have wondered at what you told me as long as I could wonder, and now I can only come to the conclusion that Hahnemann and his wife should be ranked amongst the curiosities of Paris, and that the sight-seeing stranger has not beheld all the marvels until he has seen them."

"Our conversation was interrupted by a valet, who announced that Monsieur le Docteur was at leisure, and would see Madame la Contesse."

She bade me good morning, saying, "It will be your turn next; I shall not keep you waiting long."

"I hope not," thought I, as a glance at the clock informed me that it was somewhat more than three hours since I first entered the house.

A few moments after Madame de R—— left me, I was startled by hearing the same valet distinctly pronounce my name, somewhat Frenchified, to be sure, and announce that Monsieur le Docteur was ready to receive me. I was too much surprised to do any thing but stare, until I remembered that I had placed my card in his hand some three hours before. I rose and followed him. He led the way through the same apartments I had traversed on entering. The doctor's reception chamber was situated at the further end of the suite.

Throwing open a door he loudly announced me and retired.

I stood in the presence of Monsieur le Docteur and Madame Hahnemann. The chamber I now entered was more simply decorated than any I had visited. In the centre of the room stood a long table; at its head a slightly elevated platform held a plain-looking desk covered with books. In front of the desk sat Madame Hahnemann, with a blank volume open before her, and a gold pen in her hand. Hahnemann was reclining in a comfortable arm chair on one side of the table. They rose to receive me, and I presented Madame Hahnemann a letter from Herr Dr. Hirsch-

feldt of Bremen, an eminent physician, who had formerly been a pupil of Hahnemann's.

While Madame Hahnemann was glancing through the letter, I had an opportunity of taking a survey of Hahnemann's person, for he had not yet resumed his seat. His slender and diminutive form was enveloped in a flowered dressing gown of rich materials, and too comfortable in its appearance to be of other than Parisian make. The crown of his large, beautifully proportioned head was covered by a skull-cup of black velvet. From beneath it strayed a few thin, snowy locks, which clustered about his noble forehead, and spoke of the advanced age, which the lingering freshness of his florid complexion seemed to deny. His eyes were dark, deep set, glittering, and full of animation. As he greeted me, he removed from his mouth a long painted pipe, the bowl of which nearly reached to his knees. But after the first salutation it was instantly resumed; as I was apprised by the volumes of blue smoke which began to curl about his head, as though to veil it from my injudicious scrutiny.

Madame Hahnemann gracefully expressed her gratification at the perusal of the letter, read a few lines of it to her husband in an under-tone, and made several courteous remarks to me; while the doctor bowed, without again removing his long pipe. It was evident that he did not immediately recognise Dr. Hirschfeldt's name; and he was too much accustomed to receive letters of introduction to pay any attention to their contents.

Madame Hahnemann placed herself at the desk, with the doctor on her right hand and myself on her left. I stated the principal object of my visit, attempting to direct my conversation to Hahnemann, rather than to his wife. But I soon found that this was not *selon la règle*. Madame Hahnemann invariably replied, asking a multiplicity of questions, and noting the minutest symptoms of the case as fast as my answers were given. Several times she referred to her husband, who merely replied with his pipe between his teeth, "Yes, my child," or, "Good! my child; good!" And these were the only words that I as yet had heard him utter.

After some time spent in this manner, Madame Hahnemann accidentally asked, "Where was your friend first attacked?"

"In Germany," I replied.

Hahnemann had been listening attentively, although he had not spoken. The instant I uttered these words, his whole countenance brightened as though a sunbeam had suddenly fallen across it, and he exclaimed in an animated tone: "Have you been in Germany? You speak German, don't you?" The conversation had hitherto been carried on in French, but the ready, "Certainly," with which I answered his question, apparently gave him unfeigned pleasure.

He immediately commenced a conversation in his native tongue, inquiring how I was

pleased with Germany, what I thought of the inhabitants, their customs--whether I found the language difficult--how I was impressed with the scenery, and continuing an enthusiastic strain of eulogium upon his beloved country for some time. Then he asked from whom was my letter. When I pronounced the name of Doctor Hirschfeldt, which he had listened to so coldly before, he expressed the deepest interest in his welfare, and spoke of him with mingled affection and esteem.

I was too much delighted with the doctor's animated and feeling remarks to change the topic. Yet I felt he had lost sight, and was fast inducing me to do the same, of the primary object of my visit. Madame Hahnemann, however, though she smiled and joined in the conversation, had not forgotten the host of good people who were taking lessons of patience in the antechambers. She finally put an end to the discourse by a gentle admonition to her husband; warning him that he must not fatigue himself before the hours devoted to business were half spent. Turning to me, she apologized for the interruption, saying that they received their friends in the evening, and would be happy to see me, then immediately resumed the subject of my friend's indisposition.

After a few more inquiries, I received some medicine from her hands, with especial directions concerning the manner in which it was to be used. She also presented me with a paper, on which the different kinds of food, vegetables, seasoning, and odors, which counteracted the effects of homœopathic remedies, were enumerated. After cordially shaking hands with the kind old man and his talented and exemplary wife, I bade them good morning. One of the domestics in attendance conducted me down stairs, and handed me into the carriage; and I drove home, passing along a file of coaches, stretching from Hahnemann's door rather further than I could venture to mention and expect to be believed.

The favorable impression I had received on my first interview with Doctor and Madame Hahnemann, were subsequently strengthened and confirmed. Hahnemann expressed the same enthusiasm as before, at the mention of his own country, and on hearing that I was an American, made many inquiries about our young land, and especially concerning the progress of homœopathia. I could not, however, give him much information which he had not previously received from other lips.

Hahnemann, amongst his innumerable estimable qualities, possesses that of the most indefatigable industry. The pains which he takes in studying and examining a case, are almost incredible. He records with precision the minutest symptoms of every patient, all constitutional ailments, hereditary taints, and numerous other particulars; never trusting his memory, and only prescribing after a deliberation often tedious, though always necessary.

To the poor he has ever shown untiring be-

nevolence. Certain hours of the day are set apart for the reception of persons unable to offer compensation. They are attended with equal care, their symptoms recorded, and their diseases prescribed for with the same precision, which is bestowed upon the *haute noblesse* of the land. It frequently occurs that Hahnemann is so fatigued with his morning duties, that patients who apply for advice in the afternoon, are placed under the sole superintendence of Madame Hahnemann. But they seem to consider this gifted couple one in skill, as they are indeed one in heart.

Hahnemann appears to take pleasure in confessing to the world his affection, almost veneration for his wife. Shortly after his marriage, in a reply to the Gallican Homœopathic Society of Paris, who had made him their honorary president, the following paragraph occurs. "I love France and her noble people, so great, so generous, so disposed to rectify an abuse by the adoption of a new and efficient reform. This predilection has been augmented in my heart by my marriage with one of the noble daughters of France, in every respect worthy of her country." The letter concludes with the following beautiful sentiment: "Blind as many still remain, let us render them a service despite their repugnance. In course of time we shall receive their benedictions; for our principle, like sunlight, is one of the most prominent truths of nature."

ECLECTICISM AND HOMŒOPATHY.

To the Editor of The American Journal of Homœopathy.

SIR:—My eye has just fallen on your Journal for September, in which I perceive an article of rather extraordinary character, on which I feel it my duty to the public to make a few remarks. It is found on page 71, and onward. I can notice but a few of the most striking points.

1st. Whether the chair of Homœopathy in the E. M. Institute, was established by "liberality" to the former, or a desire to secure its influence in favor of the latter, is a question which would probably be decided hereabouts against the intimation of the writer. At all events, Homœopathy is surely not Eclecticism, and cannot, consistently with their general pretensions, be fostered by Eclectics, except as a means with which to dilute allopathy and reduce its power.

2d. If "regularly educated men," means men educated in what are called regular or Allopathic institutions, then surely, some of the Eclectic Professors must fall short. But we would not think the less of them for having acquired the knowledge of Allopathy through other channels. We object only to the deception involved in the assertion that the Profes-

sors of the E. M. I., were all "regularly educated medical men."

3d. That the Eclectics outnumber the Homœopaths in the United States is doubtless true; for almost every Allopath in the Union professes to be Eclectic.

4th. But the fourth paragraph contains the most gross misrepresentations conceivable. We should be much pleased if Dr. B., would tell us in what single state the labors of Eclectics changed the legislation. It made some little effort toward changing the medical laws of Ohio, but those efforts were only as a drop in the bucket, compared with those of the Botanics, who seem to have been very ingeniously forgotten by Dr. B. Col. Kolbourne and his friends did something in the matter; but Jarvis Piko & Co. did a hundred times as much.

5th. "But," says the Dr., "it was Eclecticism which procured petitions from more than four-fifths of the voters of intelligence of this city, in favor of equalizing the rights of medical colleges, and of medical students in this State." We blush for the author of this assertion. If our memory serves, the number of signatures was about ten thousand, of which the Eclectics procured less than six thousand, and the Botanics nearly five. (See the introduction of petitions in the house.) Yet Dr. B. has the assurance to say that the Eclectics procured them all.

6th. "It was Eclecticism which procured in the legislature, a majority of fifty-one to thirty-six against the monopoly of the Ohio Medical College in the Cincinnati Commercial Hospital." This assertion is equally destitute of truth. The Botanics did as much as the Eclectics towards what was done, which was to get the vote in the House. The Senate rejected it. We think it requires both houses to constitute "the legislature!"

7th. Eclecticism has indeed done *something* toward "liberalizing public sentiment in the United States." Its tendency seems to be to induce people to believe that they may swallow, with equal propriety and safety, all absurdities in doctrine, and adopt every species of quackery. It "recognizes Homœopathy in its outlines of science," and "yielded it support." While it does not reject Allopathy in its doctrines of fever, narcotizing, &c. It abuses mercury and arsenic in Allopathy, but hugs them to its bosom in Homœopathy! It is very willing to swallow the labors of the Botanics, and to enrol their students in its classes; but very careful to give them no credit as reformers, or even assistants in reform. ("Eclectics procured the changes in the laws," "the signatures to petitions," etc.) A most liberal system of operations is the Eclectic. Its "paternal assistance" to other systems, reminds us of the motherly care which England was once so desirous to extend over this same blessed "land of the free and home of the brave."

8th. As to the "sin" of "Jealousy," we

hope the Eclectics are free from it ; but some of their conduct seems to be hard to explain upon that supposition. For example: Why did a Professor, entirely free from this sin, state that the Eclectics "procured petitions from more than four-fifths of the voters," &c., when he knew that the Botanics procured more than two-fifths of all that were procured, unless jealous that they should have some of the credit he wanted, were he to give them their due?

9th. How is "their whole system of practice widely different from that of the Allopaths," when this same expounder of their faith lately declared, that Prof. Harrison "uttered a falsehood" when he intimated that the Eclectic faculty had discarded and denounced "*cupping, leeching and blistering*," and when they still adhere to the Allopathic system of narcotizing, &c.

10th. That "Eclecticism," which seems to be but a convenient name for a system of "all things to all men-ism," should be "more congenial to the American mind," (which is composed of all sorts of characters, engaged in all sorts of enterprises,) is not strange ; but, that a "scientific faculty," totally free from the sin of prejudice, and so "liberal" as to adopt everything which commends itself as true or good, and so independent as not to be "prevented from the advocacy of anything that they regard as true," should nevertheless, allow themselves to be so humbugged as to be manufactured into "a great sheet knit at the four corners," inclosing beasts of every kind, "clean and unclean," and compelled to swallow them all together, without being able to discover the difference, is a little strange, is it not?

Yours truly, A. C.

P. S.—Let not Dr. B. complain of this article. Had he confined his to a simple statement of facts in regard to the Eclectics, or had he given others their share of the credit he took to himself and his party, he would have been spared these corrections and comments.

A. C.

Cincinnati, Oct. 11th, 1849.

Who our correspondent is, we do not know. We place his communication in our columns, not because we feel any interest in the quarrel between Dr. Buchanan and A. C., nor do we intend to make this Journal the medium of a controversy between these gentlemen. But if what it stated by A. C. be true, and from information we have received from other sources we believe it is so, we think it will help to aid some Homœopaths in the West to perceive, they have been too hasty in forming a union with the Eclectics of Cincinnati. It will be noticed also, that most of what we published in the August number of this Journal, in relation to the Eclectic Medical Institute, is fully confirmed by A. C.

TRUTHS AND THEIR RECEPTION.

(Continued from page 100)

A reference, and nothing more, is all that can be allowed to such hackneyed stories as those of Galileo and the Professor of Padua, who obstinately refused to run the risk of conversion by looking through his glass ; of Virgilius, Bishop of Saltzburg, who was burnt by his learned contemporaries, for having asserted that there existed antipodes ; of the opposition to Peruvian bark, which caused the physicians of Oliver Cromwell to allow him to die of ague, rather than that he should be permitted to take it ; of Harvey being lampooned from one end of Europe to the other ; of Jenner being the mark for all to hit at ; and of Gall finding refuge and dying in a foreign country.

The leading circumstances, however, in connexion with one of these instances of discovery—that of the circulation of the blood—have lately been so ably illustrated in a work which, although professing to be one of fiction, develops in every page the profoundest knowledge of human nature, that it may be desirable to quote from it in this place. In her *Game Law Tales*, Miss Martineau introduces the reception of Harvey's theory, to substantiate the point now contended for, that the opinions of contemporary authorities are something worse than worthless as regards new doctrines. It is in the form of a dialogue, between Lords Holland, Seymour, and Southampton:—

"One object of Old Parr's going up to court is, that Harvey may study the case, and see if he can gain hints from it for lengthening our lives."

"But surely," said the clergyman, "it can matter but little what Dr. Harvey concludes and gives out about the case of this old parishioner of mine, or any other case. No one can have any respect for his judgment in the face of the wild doctrine he gives out about the blood."

"Does he adhere to that?" asked Lord Southampton.

"Yes," replied Lord Holland. "He will, ere long, publish another tract upon it. It is astounding to see a man, who seems otherwise rational and sensible, lose himself on this one point. There is no making any impression upon him ; he persists as quietly as if all the wise people in the world agreed with him."

"Quietly?" said Lord Seymour: "I thought he was a passionate, turbulent fellow, who thought all the world a fool but himself."

"Whatever he may think," replied Lord Holland, "he says nothing to give one such an idea: on the contrary, the most amusing, and yet melancholy, part of the business is, his entire complacency. He is so self-satisfied, that nothing can move him."

"Dr. Oldham," said Southampton to the family physician, who sat smiling while this description of Harvey was given, "you have looked into this business—this pretended discovery—what have you to say to it?"

"But little, my lord ; it is not worth so

many words as have just been spent upon it. There is not a physician in Europe who believes in this pretended discovery.'

"After examination?"

"Surely, my lord. Any announcement of a discovery made by the physician whose merits have raised him to Dr. Harvey's post, cannot but meet with attention from a profession whose business it is to investigate the facts of the human frame and constitution.'

"Then known facts are against him?"

"Entirely. No point, for instance, is better understood, than that the arteries are occupied by the vital spirits, which are concocted in the left side of the heart, from the air and blood in the lungs.'

"And what says Harvey to this?"

"He controverts it, of course. Neither the opposition of all living physicians, nor even the silence of Galen on this notion of his, has the least effect upon him. It is sad and pernicious nonsense, and ruinous to a man who, but for this madness, might have been an honor to his profession. Of course, his opinions on any subject are of no value now.'

"In the profession, do you mean, or out of it?"

"I believe there are a good many out of the profession, who listen to him, open-mouthed, as to every professor of new doctrines; but it is an affair in which no opinions but those of physicians can be of any consequence; and, as I said, not a physician in Europe believes Harvey's doctrines.'

"It ought to be put down," said Lord Salisbury; to which the clergyman gave an emphatic assent, observing that, 'in so important an affair as a great question about the human frame, false opinions must be most dangerous, and ought to be put down.'

"And how is new knowledge to fare, when it comes?" said Lord Southampton. 'By my observation, Dr. Harvey's notion is so following the course that new knowledge is wont to run, that I could myself almost suppose it to be true. It has been called nonsense; that is the first stage. Now, if it be called dangerous, that is the next. I shall amuse myself by watching for the third. When it is said there is nothing new in it, and that it was plain to all learned men before Harvey was born, I shall know how to apportion to Harvey his due honor.'

"I thought, my lord, you had held my profession in respect," said the physician, with an uneasy smile.

"Am I not doing homage to a most eminent member of it—perhaps the most eminent in the world?" said Lord Southampton; 'and it appears that I am rather before than behind others in doing so. There is no man, not even the greatest, who may not stand hat in hand before the wise physician; and I, for my humble part, would do even so.'"

The above sketch individualizes the entire class who have formed the subject of our present remarks, and all will at once recognise the portrait, from having met with the original,

and heard his very words applied, at one time or another, to such new views, and such expounders of new views, as may have awakened their interest and advocacy. We might here, therefore, close these considerations, were it not for the circumstance that, as all the illustrations which have been given refer to periods which have long passed away, some readers, even while they admit that the human nature which was thus manifested 50, 300, or 1800 years back, was the same human nature which, although improved, is now manifesting itself in the world, might be disposed, in the absence of all citations of modern examples, to estimate unduly the progress which has been made. This reason renders it necessary, therefore, to pause a short time longer, while we glance at the experience of our own times.

It is now not above five years, since a surgeon at Wellow, Notts, gave to the medical world a full and careful detail of the fact of a capital operation having been performed on the person of a laboring man in the hospital of that place, while in a state of entire unconsciousness, produced by certain manipulations which had been resorted to for the purpose. The evidence of the whole proceedings was complete and unquestionable. The man exhibited no emotion, "his whole frame rested in perfect stillness, not a muscle or nerve was seen to twitch," and on being gradually awakened, after the operation, he merely exclaimed, "I bless the Lord to find it's all over!" A lucid statement of the entire case, accompanied by all necessary certificates, was then forwarded to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, and read before that body. A discussion ensued, and the man was pronounced to be an impostor. There was no previous imputation on his character; he had been brought down for many months to the prospect of the grave, by what he and his attendants had believed to be a mortal disorder, so that there must have been every tendency to an earnest state of mind, and his averment, that he had "suffered no pain," instead of producing him any advantage, must have deprived him of all that applause, usually so agreeable to persons of his class, which would otherwise have been bestowed upon him for his unflinching firmness in the ordeal he had passed. The Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, however, were satisfied that he was an impostor, because there had been a total absence of all movement; and it was contended by them, that even if the man had been as insensible as was represented, certain reflex movements of various muscles would still have occurred, as a matter of course. The sole reward of the benevolent surgeon, therefore, in making the process known to his colleagues, was simply to find himself regarded as a dupe, or perhaps as an accessory to a deception, and with this the matter ended.

Notwithstanding the warning thus held out, however, to other inquirers, not to attempt, if they valued their reputation, any similar expe-

riments, it appears that several were daring enough to do so, and reports were occasionally furnished to the public of the extraction of teeth and the performance of other excruciating processes, without any sense of suffering on the part of the respective patients. At length a Dr. Esdaile, in India, announced the performance, not merely of one or two, but of a complete series of operations of a most painful kind—chiefly the removal of tumors—upon diseased patients in a state of unconsciousness, in the gaol infirmaries and hospitals at Calcutta, which led to a committee being constituted by the Indian Government to report upon the results of his method. This was followed by the establishment of a Government hospital, especially under Dr. Esdaile's superintendence, and the final result of many months of continued and public success was his receiving, at the hands of the authorities, the appointment of Presidency Surgeon. Meanwhile, however, these facts had stimulated an American physician to attempt the discovery of some palpable agent that should produce instantaneously, and with unvarying certainty, the effects which Dr. Esdaile and others had demonstrated, and which the Medico-Chirurgical Society and the profession, as a body, had so recently denounced as mere delusions, caused by trickery, and impossible under any circumstances. Hence the discovery of the anæsthetic properties of ether by Dr. C. T. Jackson, of Boston, in America, followed by the introduction of chloroform by Dr. Simpson, of Edinburgh; and as the effects of these were so immediate and palpable as to put contest out of the question, the consequent recognition was unavoidable, that the state which was boldly asserted by the profession to be so inconsistent with nature that any supposition was more reasonable than that it could be true, was producible by simple and well-known agents, the power of which we might imagine far less potent than that of one human being acting by sympathy on another.

To be continued.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy

Among the indigenous North American plants, it is a wonder that some other important remedies have not been proved. *Iris versicolor* has been known at the West, for many years, as a febrifuge, anti-dysenteric, &c., and the Indians in the Black Hawk country perform many wonderful cures of chronic complaints by its use. *Cimicifuga racemosa* is also a standard and official remedy in several schools. Its effects in rheumatic complaints alone entitle it to a proving by our school. *Celastrus scandens*, the bark of the root, and also the berries, show, under the botanic school treatment, highly anti-psoric virtues, and should be studied. Is it not strange that, in proving the *Lobelias*, *L. Syphilitica* should have been neglected, and a preference given to *L. Cardinalis*, which has seldom, if ever, been used in

medicine? *L. Syphilitica* has its name from having been successfully used by the Indians. Dr. Joslyn and his associates have showed us that *Rhus Radicans* covers all the ground of the European trial of *R. Tox.*; and may not the same be the case with *Veratrum Viride*? It may be found to cover ground as important, if not the same, as *Verat. Alb.* And should not the *Rhus Venenota*, erroneously named *Rhus Vernix*, be more fully tried, as it seems to be incomparably more active than any other *Rhus*, at least of this latitude? G.

Buffalo, Sept., 1849.

HAHNEMANN

ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

Homœopathic Physicians of New-York city and its vicinity have organized an institution with the above title, and secured its incorporation under the law of the State.

The following named persons constitute the "Executive Council" for the ensuing year, viz.:

JOHN F. GRAY, M. D., *President.*

S. R. KIRBY, M. D., *Vice do.*

P. P. WELLS, M. D., *Corresponding Sec.*

J. W. METCALF, M. D., *Recording do.*

HUDSON KINSLEY, M. D.	} <i>Trustees.</i>
J. A. MCVICKAR, M. D.	
A. S. BALL, M. D.	

A public meeting of the Academy will be held on the second Wednesday evening in January next, at which the President will deliver his inaugural address. It is expected that other members of the Academy will also address the meeting. The "Executive Council" intend to arrange for a large and an unusually interesting meeting of the friends of Homœopathia.

Arrangements will be made, with as little delay as possible, for a full course of instruction in all the branches of Medicine and Surgery; which will not be accomplished, however, during this winter.

Application will be made at the next session of the Legislature of this State for collegiate powers; and in view of the large number of petitioners which will come from every part of the State, we do not doubt a favorable result. It is intended to make the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine the most complete of any institution in our country for a thorough medical and surgical education. Many of our wealthy and intelligent citizens already perceive their interests, as well as that of genera-

tions to come, intimately connected with the prosperity of the above Academy, and as its objects and its operation become more fully developed, our citizens will no doubt amply contribute, to enable the Academy to erect a suitable building for a more complete course of medical and surgical instruction than has ever been attempted in this country. We have never seen the physicians of our school in this city more harmonious in views and feelings than on the subject of this Academy; and their zeal is of the right sort to carry forward the important work they have undertaken. Physicians of our school, throughout the State, will be supplied with the petition to the Legislature, and their co-operation, to secure the names of those friendly to the object expressed in said petition, is earnestly solicited. The Constitution and By-Laws will be published soon. Every graduated or licensed Physician of the State may become a corresponding member of the Academy, by signifying his belief in the doctrine embraced in the preamble to the Constitution, and paying an initiation fee of five dollars.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

In my last I named several plants which deserve trial, and am now induced to name some more. One friend suggests to me that I should not name so many at a time, as but few can be tried at once. Your work being intended to bind, and become a part of every physician's library, I think the objection of little worth. I will place a list before the profession, from which they may select, at pleasure, for years.

Veronica beccabunga, also *Veronica scatellata*, both of which, under the vulgar name of "Brook lime," have been used, externally and internally, with success, against old scrofulous ulcers, accompanied with symptoms of phthisis. Is not this a hint that a new antipsoric may be found here?

Rhamnus catharticus, a popular cathartic, and so-called "purifier of the blood," is also worth consideration. There are also antipsoric qualities to be inferred from the successful domestic use of *Uvularia perfoliata*; *Lycopus virginicus*; *Arctium lappa*; *Rumex crispus*; and others of the *Rumex* genus; *Sambucus canadensis*; several species of the genus *Cornus*; *Amaranthus hypochondriacus*; *Senecio obovatus*; *Hamamelis virginica*; and many others.

We have several species of *Euphorbia*, all of which must of necessity be powerful agents upon the system. There is also the *Polygonum* genus; and the only useful one for food may be cited as a proof; the *Polygonum fagopyrum*, the flour of which, eaten in pancakes, causes an eruption upon the skin of man, and the herb of which causes so severe an eruption upon swine, that their ears have been known to drop off, from running among it while growing. More anon. G.

Buffalo, Oct., 1849.

A student of medicine, who had studied with a Homœopathic physician, applied to the "President of the Faculty of Rush Medical College," to know whether he could graduate in that Institution by attending two full courses, and complying with all the requirements of that Institution. The reply was, that "he could do so on one condition, and that only, that he should solemnly promise never to practise Homœopathy." The Southwestern Homœopathic Journal thinks this an act of meanness. We regard it quite consistent with the close monopoly organization of the medical faculties of the colleges. The time is near at hand when it will be looked upon as improper for the civil law to designate by whom students of medicine shall be educated for their professional duties. The intelligence of the people already penetrates the value of an Allopathic medical diploma. A rigid recorded examination of candidates for the doctorate by competent persons, who have no pecuniary interest in the sale of the diploma, would be of vast value to the profession and to the people.

HOMŒOPATHIC ADHESIVE PLASTER.—Dr. Nusser, after adverting to the inadmissibility of the common adhesive plaster as an application to wounds, recommends in its stead a plaster prepared with glue, a solution of which in water with a little alcohol added he carries about with him, to be spread on strips of calico when needed. Our common isinglass plaster is every way superior to such a fœtid preparation.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Jahr's New Manual of Homœopathic Medicine. Edited, with Annotations, by A. GERALD HULL, M.D. New York. Wm. Radde. Price \$3 00.

This work is a Repertory, and is well known to the profession. The volume under notice is the third American edition, and contains "the recent practical contributions and new remedies of the school, as far as its necessary condensation would allow." There are about two hundred pages of new matter, compiled, we

should judge, from the expressed obligations of the Editor, by Egbert Guernsey, M. D. This work of Jahr's needs no commendation from us to promote its sale, for a physician of our school could not think of performing his duties without it.

Elements of Homœopathic Practice of Physic.

This is an octavo of 372 pages, neatly got up, and published by Wm. Radde. It purports to be an Appendix to Dr. A. G. Hull's Laurie's "Homœopathic Domestic Medicine," arranged as a practical work for students, containing also the diseases of the urinary and genital organs.

A Domestic Homœopathy, restricted to its legitimate sphere of practice; together with rules for Diet and Regimen. By EDWARD C. CHEPMELL, M. D. First American Edition, with additions and improvements, by SAMUEL B. BARLOW, M. D. New York: Wm. Radde. 268 pp. Price 50 cents.

We have not compared it with the original English edition, therefore we cannot state what credit is due to the American editor, for it would seem that his modesty would not allow him to indicate by the usual marks what belongs to him.

It contains a long chapter on Dietetics, which is valuable. Works of this character are multiplying in the Homœopathic school, and with us they are of doubtful tendency. The one before us aims, and successfully, too, we think, to be useful in domestic practice, and, unlike all others, it only points out what may be done in the absence of a physician. We regard it as the best of its class, as no one of ordinary intelligence can fail to understand its directions. There is one serious fault in it, which is, too many medicines and too many different attenuations of the same drug. We presume a second edition will soon be called for, and we hope the Editor will correct this evil, and, to avoid all embarrassments, strike out the figures which mark the attenuations in the text, and give suitable directions on that subject in a preface. The Editor is a gentleman of learning, and of some thirty years' experience in the active duties of his profession; the last eight have been devoted to the practice of Homœopathia.

Surgical Essays and Cases in Surgery. By DAVID L. ROGERS, M. D.

This is an octavo of 151 pages, neatly printed. The object of its publication, as stated by the Author, is, "that it may serve as a memento of me to my friends, especially to that large number of them, among the medical profession of New York, who for many years honored me with their confidence. It is for them that this volume is especially intended, and to them it cannot fail to be interesting."

Dr. Rogers is an old friend of ours, with whom we were on terms of intimacy for years. We were associated with him as surgeon in the

Ophthalmic Infirmary of this city; in the New York School of Medicine; and in the private tuition of medical students. We had the honor of assisting him in many surgical operations, which are related in these Essays. They recall vividly to our mind circumstances in our early professional life. We are not a little indebted to Dr. R. for his example of industry and perseverance, which contributed so much to place him among the very best operative surgeons of this city. Surgery was his favorite branch, and to this, mainly, he devoted the energy of his mind with unusual success. Several years ago, after having acquired a competency, he retired from the active duties of his profession, yet, as the volume under notice shows, he still feels the advancement of surgery a high object. We wish him a long life and happiness, and regret that pecuniary prosperity should have deprived the profession of so able a surgeon.

J. EDW. STOHLMANN,

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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NEW-YORK, JANUARY, 1850.

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## THE PASSAGE OF HOMŒOPATHIA WEST OF THE ALLEGHANIES.

BY J. P. DAKE, A. B.

THOUGH the time is not fully come for writing the history of Homœopathia, in America yet the recording of facts that must eventually compose its body and of incidents that must give coloring and life to its pages, certainly is an important duty upon the hands of our generation. When, in the lapse of coming years, the American people, fully blessed in the triumph of the true healing art, shall, in tearful gratitude, look back to its "days of small things"—its early pioneers and propagators, they should be permitted to gaze through no imperfect, no refracting medium. A chapter, in each number of the Journal, devoted to reminiscences of Homœopathia in America, would not only afford rich material for the future historian, but would also stimulate to perseverance those now laboring to intro-

duce medical reform, where medical ignorance has long held sway. An occasional chapter from the diary of some of the "Fathers," would be of real value. —

In the following lines, I shall endeavor briefly to describe the passage of Homœopathia west of the Alleghanies.

A young man, educated in medicine, at the University of Halle, in Germany, moved by a spirit of enterprise to seek his field of labor in the "New World," arrived in our country, in the Autumn of 1834. Making the acquaintance of his distinguished countrymen, Drs. Hering and Wesselhœfft, with the latter of whom he had an opportunity of testing, more fully than he had before done, the truthfulness of the Homœopathic law of cure, he soon renounced fully and forever the Old School, the School of guessing, and commenced practice, as a disciple of Hahnemann. Strongly united to his new associates, by attachment to a common cause, and enmity to a common foe, he was soon vigorously co-operating with them in the spread of medical reform, in the land of his adoption.

In the establishment of the first Homœopathic School of medicine \* on our continent, he was a mover, and while it flourished, even though far removed from it, he yet cherished an abiding interest in its welfare. But the light radiating from the true Esculapian altars, established around Philadelphia, by these disciples of Hahnemann, gleaming in the distance had already streaked the west, disturbing the dreams of Allopathy and gladdening the anxious gaze of the pain-tossed, sleepless victims of disease. The time drew near when, like the disciples of the great teacher, they must part, and each bearing a light to open the eyes of the sleeping and a remedy to relieve the

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\* The "Allentown Academy of Medicine," at Allentown, Pa.

pains of the suffering, go to seek their field of labor in other parts. In the summer of 1837, Dr. Hering received a letter from a clergyman, in Pittsburgh, urging him to send a Homœopathic physician over the "mountains." The call was laid before the medical "Burschenschaft." The undertaking seemed hard and almost hazardous. To leave such a brotherhood, to labor alone, amid strangers and in the face of violent opposition, was indeed an enterprise that might challenge the resolution and courage of the bravest.

At the pause given by the magnitude of the undertaking, *Reichhelm*, whose character I have briefly sketched, being urged by Dr. Hering to accept the call, replied "give me five minutes to think of it." The fruits of that "five minutes" reflection are to-day ripening all over the great South-west.

The spirit that had enabled him to tear away from his father-land, enabled him likewise to triumph over the fear of all contests and hardships, in promoting the cause to which the energies of his whole soul were devoted. The lapse of a few weeks saw him upon the summit of the Alleghanies, westward bound: and a few more found him well settled in the "Iron City." Thus, while the darkness of medical ignorance, in America, was as unbroken and uninviting as her primitive wilderness, when interrupted only by scattered colonies, dotting the Atlantic coast, he entered the wild and far-spreading valley of the west, with flambeau and "heilskraft" in hand.

The very site, selected nearly a century before, by young Washington, as the most suitable and commanding for the first strong-hold of the Anglo-saxon arms in the west, was occupied by Reichhelm in 1837 as the most important stand to be taken, in subduing his vast field to the mild and healthful reign of Homœopathy.

The spell broken—the mountains, long looming up like a hideous spectre to guard the entrance to the land of promise, once passed—others, catching the "westward ho," followed toward the "setting sun." But few months elapsed, when Dr. Pulte, also a member of the Allentown School, passing Reichhelm, planted the standard of Reform in Cincinnati. About three years later, he was joined by Dr. Bowers, likewise a member of the Allentown School.

Not having at hand the means of knowing the manner of its subsequent introduction to

other places in the west, I shall briefly notice the labors of our earliest pioneer in Pittsburgh.

Upon Dr. Reichhelm's arrival at his new location, the clergyman who had written the letter to Dr. Hering, alone gave him a hearty welcome. Few men have ever engaged in so important an enterprise, under circumstances so embarrassing. Advocating a system, with the superiority of which the people were entirely unacquainted—a principle, antagonistic to the notions and practice of all other physicians around him, he was compelled to bear the insolence and professional abuse of ill-bred opponents, without the hand of sympathy, or even the cloak of charity, that are now so readily extended, by an enlightened community, to the reformer in any department of science. Unacquainted with the peculiar habits and tacts of American society, the contest into which he was drawn by the "natives," seemed to him more like a "Guerilla warfare" than a scientific encounter.

Very soon after his establishment, through the influence of his friend, the clergyman, he was employed as attending physician to the Pittsburgh Orphan Asylum.

The success of his practice there, for nearly twelve years, has been almost without a parallel, even in the history of Homœopathia. I omit the particulars of his treatment there, with the intention of furnishing them in a concise form, at some future time. For a long time, Dr. Reichhelm stood alone in Pittsburgh. It is true, physicians, *calling* themselves Homœopathic, made their appearance around him from time to time, yet, for nearly ten years, he found none in whom he could recognise a true, pure disciple of Hahnemann.

To fraternize with such—to give them countenance, seemed to him alike inconsistent and injurious. Regarding the *purity* of Homœopathia of greater importance than its rapid and alloyed diffusion, he sternly refused his favor to any and all who, esteeming themselves far in advance of the Old School and even able to improve the new by *correcting a law of nature*, mixed the two systems in a wild and senseless practice. Adhering thus to fixed principles, he persevered; and persevering, succeeded beyond his most sanguine expectations, year after year he had the satisfaction of seeing his cause progressing safely and rapidly on. Learning and wealth, at first lending him their favor, at length, gave him their strong support.



To-day he has at his side able colleagues, and around him a vast and yet increasing number of wealthy and intelligent patrons.

Twelve years have now elapsed since the passage of Homœopathia west of the Alleghanies. But how changed its appearance and prospects! In the mighty field where Reichhelm stood alone, hundreds are now dispensing its blessings to the sick and suffering.

Along the broad valley, across the Mississippi, over the Rocky Mountains, and along the Pacific, the disciples of the illustrious Hahnemann have made their way.

Even in California they are found comforting the lonely stranger, who, leaving a cheerful home, has sacrificed health in pursuit of the "El Dorado" of the 19th century.

## TRUTHS AND THEIR RECEPTION.

(Concluded from page 126.)

Not to press too hardly on the medical profession, however, let us turn to other cases of reform, affecting very different classes.

It will be remembered, that about two years back a decided expression of public opinion took place, on the question of military discipline and punishments, in consequence of the death of a soldier having rapidly ensued after the infliction of 150 lashes, by order of a court-martial at Hounslow; and that the agitation thus aroused led to the number of 50 lashes being fixed as the limit to which such sentences should for the future be allowed to extend. The force of popular feeling had seemed to render it probable that the entire abolition of this degrading mode of upholding those "noble qualities" of the British soldier which form so frequent a theme in the British parliament, would be unavoidable; and it was only with difficulty the ministers contrived to put off this consummation, and to pacify the advocates for reform by the concession above mentioned, coupled by general assurances of a strong desire ultimately to grant all that was demanded. But it was by public opinion alone, that is to say, by the opinion of merchants, doctors, clerks, shopkeepers, mechanics, farmers, laborers, and private gentlemen, as opposed to the opinions of military officers, "who were conversant with the subject, as the business of their lives," that this great concession was obtained. From the earliest military records, down to the very hour at which the amelioration in question was adopted, the fear of the possibility of such a step had been constantly present to the military mind, and predictions and protests of the most alarming description had always burst forth at every mention of the matter.

Up to the year 1807, any number of lashes

could be inflicted, but at that period a private of the 54th regiment having been sentenced to receive 1500, his majesty, George the Third, was "graciously pleased,"—to use the words of the general order promulgated on the occasion,—"to express his opinion that no sentence for corporal punishment should exceed *one thousand lashes*."

During the war, the punishment was so frequent in the British army, that it was estimated by Major Macnamara to have been sustained by at least three-fourths of the soldiers in every regiment; and in 1812, it was stated that the mean number of lashes inflicted monthly in a regiment then serving in India, was for some time 17,000. These facts attracted attention, and provoked discussion in the House of Commons, and it was solely owing to such discussions and the efforts of the press, that the practice became moderated in the slightest degree. The opposition raised by military men to permitting any consideration of the question was such, that it was remarked on one occasion, when Sir Francis Burdett brought forward a motion with respect to it, that "one would have supposed he had been proposing to do away with some great known blessing—something containing within itself the means of affording health, or plenty, or security." And in 1842, Lord Stanley, then Mr. Stanley expressed his conviction, that if the matter had been left to military men, flogging would have been continued to that hour in full force. A large proportion of the officers of the army, it is remarked in the excellent work of Mr. Marshall on the system,\* "seemed to be so well satisfied with the efficacy of corporal punishment, however degrading and injurious it was popularly admitted to be, that they rarely considered the practicability of moderating its severity, diminishing its frequency, or of suggesting an adequate substitute. Corporal punishment was considered the *sine qua non*, without which the discipline of the army could not be maintained. 'I am not the least surprised at this opinion,' says Lord William Bentinck; 'I must not forget that for many years of my life, in conjunction with ninety-nine hundred parts of the officers of the British army, I entertained the same sentiments. It is only from long reflection, from the effects of discussion, from the observation that since that time, though corporal punishments have diminished a hundred, perhaps a thousand-fold, discipline has been improved, and the soldier treated like a rational being, and not as a mere brute, that my own prejudice and that of others have given way.' 'At one time,' Mr. Marshall adds, 'the efficiency of an officer to command seemed to be estimated by his disposition to inflict corporal punishment. 'I understand you have got a new commanding officer,' said an officer

\* The Military Miscellany. By Henry Marshall, F. R. S. E. Deputy Inspector General of Army Hospitals. London: Murray.



of one regiment to that of another ; ' how do you like him ? ' ' We like him pretty well,' answered the other, ' only he does not flog enough.' "

When at length, in 1812, public opinion had succeeded so far as to cause a limitation of the number of lashes in the power of a regimental court-martial to 300 instead of 1000, the effect it produced on some military authorities was such as completely to overpower that which, in such characters, is usually considered to be the grand idea of life, namely, implicit subordination. " One officer," says Mr. Marshall, " with whom I was acquainted, and who belonged to the same regiment as myself, swore that he could not, and would not, comply with the order." Throughout all the struggles made against the system, it has been well observed, the arguments adduced by military officers in Parliament bore a close affinity to those with which a Spanish Inquisitor once endeavored to justify the system pursued by that tribunal. " Do not imagine," said he, " that we take pleasure in *autos da fé*. Oh, no ! it is by far the most painful part of our duty. But how can ecclesiastical discipline be carried on without it ? Gentlemen *who are not themselves versed in the department over which we preside*, are not competent judges as to the expediency of leaving the power in our hands, without which it would be altogether impracticable to maintain due subordination, and anarchy and confusion would infallibly prevail."

The motives of the parties advocating a mitigation of corporal punishment were traced to " an active and persevering desire to innovate upon the customs of the country, and to establish a corrupt popularity with the unthinking part of the community, if not to sap the discipline of the army, and thereby to remove the last bar to the introduction of democracy, and its consequences, anarchy and devastation." Since that time, however, we have seen the 1000 lashes reduced to 50, and none of these consequences have been fulfilled. It has turned out, that on the subject which had been the business of their lives, the military prophets were wrong, and that, as in the case of the cosmographers and navigators of the days of Columbus, who showed themselves less capable of forming a judgment on nautical science than a physician and a priest, it would have been better if they had submitted with docility to learn the most important lesson connected with their profession, from the arguments of the shopkeepers and others composing the general public, to whose will they were at length forced to succumb, and the correctness of whose views they are now compelled to acknowledge.

Passing from military men and their prejudices, we may turn for our next modern illustration to a very different class.

Previously to the year 1844, the state of the banking laws in England had been a constant topic of complaint. Scarcely a year passed, in which some distresses of the country were not traced, and in many instances with perfect

justice, to the total want of any sound principle in the regulation of the paper currency of the kingdom. Each banking establishment was guided by its own judgment of what was practicable or prudent, and the consequences were a constant state of uncertainty as to the extent of the note issues that might take place from time to time, totally destructive of all possibility, on the part either of bankers or merchants generally, of calculating with precision what might be the condition of the circulation at any given period, or under any given circumstances. In this state of affairs, the very expediency of permitting a paper currency at all was not unfrequently questioned, since it was contended that the advantages of economy and convenience which it was calculated to bestow, were more than neutralized by the sad revulsions which were constantly the result of the capricious manner in which the issues were conducted ; and which, rendering impossible any exercise of foresight on the part of the trader, often confounded the careful and the improvident in one common ruin. The question, therefore, was, whether the safety and steadiness of an entirely metallic circulation were not such as to render it worth while to forego the economy and the convenience resulting from a mixed one.

At this period, Mr. Samuel Jones Loyd put forward a plan, by which the paper circulation might be retained, and brought within definite laws, which should cause it to operate in *precisely* the same manner as if the currency were entirely metallic, and by which the trader would be rendered able to calculate invariably, and with the minutest precision, what would be the state of the money market from time to time, under the ordinary course of commercial events. To look at the state of supply and demand between the products of his own and of other countries was already his natural function, and Mr. Loyd's plan rendered it certain that, if he would fulfil this duty for himself, it would be impossible for the future that he should be thrown out in his calculations by any unlooked-for disturbance of the circulating medium. The discovery—for like every exposition of a perfect principle, simple as it was, it deserved that term—commended itself to the practical shrewdness of Sir Robert Peel, and accordingly, in 1844, he adopted it as the basis of the long-desired reform in the currency system of the country. It need hardly be said, however, that, like every other measure of advancement, it was destined to meet an active and formidable opposition ; and perhaps, after what has already been written, it is still less necessary to add, that this opposition proceeded almost entirely from the bankers of London and their connexions, and that the strength of all the subsequent arguments against the measure was derived, as a matter of course, from this very circumstance, and consisted, as usual, in the phrase we have already so often repeated, that the opinions of those who were practically familiar with the subject, and the large



majority of whom had decided against it, were entitled to far more weight than the abstract speculations of mere theorists.

Another important illustration, from a recent source, suggests itself. About ten years back, Rowland Hill broached his plan of post-office reform, which, for simplicity and ingenuity, may also take its place in the actual records of discovery; and in this case the fact is too well known to need repetition, that the adoption of the measure was actually forced on the Government by public opinion, against the most energetic protests and the most persevering obstacles, placed in its way by the post office authorities, who were "conversant with the subject, as the business of their lives," whose opinions were received with the usual weight on this very score, and who could actually have had no personal motive to resist the improvement, except such as was furnished by professional prejudice, since it placed their official position in no danger whatever, and would merely have involved on their part a variation from the peculiar routine to which they had been hitherto accustomed.

and instructive to add, may be given as follows.

A further example, which it will be interesting

For the last three years, Captain Maconochie, an officer in the navy, who acted some time back as superintendent at Norfolk Island, has been endeavoring to force upon the attention of the Government a system for the treatment of transported criminals, which he terms the "mark system;" and which it was earnestly desired by the friends of progress might be adopted. The feature of this plan consists in regulating the duration of the prisoner's sentence solely by the nature of his conduct. It proposes that, instead of being sentenced for a specified term of years, he should be sentenced according to the enormity of his offence, to earn a certain number of "marks," which are in fact to represent wages. For each day's labor according to its quantity, and as it might be well or ill performed, he would receive payment in these symbols, and thus in proportion to his diligence he would accumulate the means of shortening his detention. Here is a constant stimulus to exertion, calculated to beget permanent habits of cheerful industry; but it will be seen that something more is required to insure that the offender shall have learned those habits of self-control which alone can render him fit again to encounter the temptations of the world. To meet this point, Captain Maconochie urges that the criminal should be required to pay out of his earnings, in marks, for his food and all indulgences he may require, and also that he should be fined in marks for every offence he may commit. It is even proposed, and upon good reasons, that he should be permitted to purchase tobacco and spirits, and other fancied luxuries upon the same terms; every instance of drunkenness or intemperance of any kind being visited with a heavy fine.

In this way, he never would be able to es-

cape from the law until he had gained the power of resisting temptation: because, in proportion as he might expend his marks upon these indulgences, he would prolong the time of his imprisonment. In Norfolk Island, Captain Maconochie tried this plan amid every kind of opposition, but nevertheless, with the most striking results; and, apart from practical experience, it would be difficult to conceive any system more perfectly adapted to secure the protection of society, by rendering it certain that no convicted criminal shall again enter its bosom until satisfactory evidence has been afforded that he may be safely trusted.

But although these views, on their announcement, were favorably received by the most practical and eminent philanthropists, and apparently also by those members of the Government to whom they were submitted,—more especially as every so-called preventive or reformatory system, based upon opposite principles, had without exception resulted in total failure, the expensive and much-boasted experiment at Parkhurst having been the last bitter disappointment—they were not destined to receive a trial until at all events they should have overcome the usual obstacles from those who have made the subject their entire professional occupation. The system had been tried, as has been stated, at Norfolk Island by Captain Maconochie on his own responsibility, and amidst all the difficulties that the absence of any permanently recognized power on his part and the resistance of old employées were capable of throwing in his way, he still obtained results that amounted to a practical demonstration of the soundness of his theory; while it was also ascertained that an establishment founded on an analogous principle at Mettray, near Tours, had exhibited, after prolonged experience, a further and most astonishing confirmation of its value. Under these circumstances, it may well be conceived there was only one thing strong enough to prevent a trial of the system, and that was professional prejudice. A fair and deliberate trial was all that was contended for, and its promoters were willing to see it granted, in the first instance, in any establishment and under any limitations as regards magnitude or expense.

In deference, however, to the universal delusion which it has been the object of these pages to upset, that those who had been engaged for years in practising a recognized system were the best persons to decide if that system should be altered, the proposition is understood to have been submitted by the Government—themselves favorably disposed—to the inspectors of prisons for a report on its expediency. That report, it is scarcely necessary to say, was as a matter of course unfavorable, and the trial therefore has been deferred. That it will one day be adopted, few persons who possess the logical faculty, coupled with a belief in the doctrines of Christianity being ultimately extended from Sunday repetition to week-day practice, will be disposed to doubt; but mean-



while, the report which was probably worded after the fashion of that of the cosmographers and navigators of the days of Columbus, namely, that the proposition submitted was "not only doubtful, but in some degree ridiculous," will have the effect of prolonging for a considerable period the present modes of management, all of which have failed ever since the world began, and which are avowedly deplored as the opprobrium of civilization.

The same thing was observed in the case of the treatment of lunatics; and although Dr. Conolly in England, and Dr. Woodward in America, have succeeded in demonstrating to the world the effects of that "soothing system," which at first was never spoken of by their colleagues in the profession—especially those who were exclusively devoted to this branch—except with a taunt, their success was achieved amidst such obstacles as only men devoted to the cause of humanity would have had the constancy to undergo.

The opposition to the new doctrines regarding the navigation laws is at present being carried on almost exclusively by those who, as large ship-owners, have been conversant with navigation as the business of their lives; and the chief public demonstration against the proposed reform was made by the seamen, who would be most benefitted by an alteration, but whom it was presumed the public would, according to old impulse, look upon as practical authorities. In like manner, there is an opposition going on to sanitary reform, and to the removal of Smithfield market, in the face of the most energetic manifestations of public opinion, on the part of those civic functionaries, the business of whose lives it has professedly been to judge of the wants, capabilities, and welfare of the city of London.

The catalogue of illustrations might be lengthened to any extent, but enough has probably been said to induce in the mind of the reader sufficient doubt as to the infallibility of what is usually called authority, to prevent him for the future from voluntarily loading its chains upon that best gift he has received from his Creator, the power of examination and free judgment.

Yet, notwithstanding it may thus have been made plain, that the opposition of professors or craftsmen is always to be expected, in a general sense, in the case of any discovery or improvement bearing upon their respective systems, we must still recognize that this applies, as a rule, only to the majority—the routine followers, in short, of established things—and that amongst every body of men there are earnest and original minds, capable of struggling against the thralldom of their conventional usages, and of boldly showing that they have arrived at that height of knowledge, which has taught them how much they have to learn, and with what humility and thankfulness they should receive new light.

It would, therefore, be a serious error, if a non-professional investigator were led to disre-

gard, in any given case of vaunted discovery, a long-continued, entire, and unanimous condemnation on the part of the instructed members of the profession to which it may apply. Such a condemnation might fall upon any truth, no matter how sublime, in a first general outburst, but it could not continue. Before the doctrine had long been published, some Nicodemus would come by night to receive its lessons, and gradually a small band would gather in its defence; a band, moreover, which would steadily increase, through evil report and good report. If circumstances of this sort, therefore, are wanting in any individual instance of an alleged new truth, we may feel pretty certain that it will turn out no truth at all; and although even in this case we should not be warranted, if we had leisure, in forbearing to examine for ourselves, it would take away much of the urgency of reproach for any temporary delay.

Having commenced this general essay, with the final view of pointing out its applications especially to the doctrine of Homœopathy, and having, it may be hoped, established the point contended for, that the public are not justified in neglecting an examination of that system, on the ground that it has received professional opposition, unless it could be shown that such opposition has been permanently unanimous, it now, therefore, remains for us to inquire whether the system has, from time to time, received that proportion of courageous individual support, which we have admitted may in all such cases fairly be looked for. This inquiry will consequently form the subject of a third and concluding chapter.

*Sampson on Homœopathy.*

## ON MODERN HUMORISM.

BY M. TESSIER.

M. Tessier arrives at the following conclusions from an examination of the results obtained by M. Andral in his investigations of the condition of the blood in different diseases:

"We have not been able to lay hold of any one etiological fact having any value whatever. This suffices to show that in our opinion what is called modern humorism, purified humorism, does not and cannot exist as a medical doctrine, and that consequently, *organicism*, or the principle of the localization of disease is but a chimera. The title of a celebrated work ('*De Sedibus et Causis Morborum*') has too easily deceived many. The belief that the lesions of the solids and liquids of the body are the seat and cause of disease has been credulously received, and the phantom of localization has been pursued with a zeal worthy of a better result. While believing that a reform in medical doctrine has been accomplished, we have been carried back to whatever is most false and most hypothetical in Galenism. It would seem as if medicine is never to leave



the track marked out for it by Hippocrates and Galen. In the sixteenth century, reform in medicine consisted in re-asserting the errors of Hippocrates, while in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries we have been content with Galenism. It has been thought that, by ornamenting it with the results of modern physic and chemistry, a reform has been accomplished; but we have only complicated a system in whose trammels we are yet kept.

"Nothing is more dangerous in science than to attach importance to mere probabilities, and of this modern humorism furnishes us with a proof. For any man, who has not a well-defined idea of what *disease* really is, or who has not yet passed the abyss of general pathology, nothing seems more probable than the supposition that a certain number of diseases proceed from changes in the blood. The part this fluid plays in the economy renders this so easy to believe; and how many physicians with Galen have believed it! Yet this belief, at first sight so simple and seductive, is a mere medical extravaganza, an absurdity unworthy of a serious thinker.

"The history of the alterations of the blood is and will always be a question in *semeiotics*, and no more, inasmuch as such alterations are but symptoms. Supposing chemistry and the microscope succeeded in exposing the minutest modifications of this fluid, that will not convert a symptom into a disease, a sign into a cause, a question of semeiology into one of etiology.

"He who enters on a study of the alterations of the blood as the cause of disease, seems to me to act very much as a surgeon who would study crepitation as a cause of fracture. It does not follow that he should not study crepitation, nor do I mean to assert that it is not highly advantageous to study the blood in disease, by all the procedures that physics, chemistry, and physiology have placed in our hands. I am happy in adding that the labors of M. Andral abundantly furnish the proof of this. To that physician will always remain the honor of having verified and classified a certain number of the alterations of the blood, and having furnished useful indications in semeiotics. Thanks to his labors, we are now able to say that humorism is an *error*, and that the changes in the blood are *facts*."—*Medico-Chirurgical Review*.

The above remarks are valuable. They indicate to our mind, that the dynamic nature of disease proper may yet be acknowledged in the allopathic school, which would open the door for the admission and reception of homœopathy.

So long as Pathological anatomy is regarded as exhibiting the character of disease, and so long as chemistry and the microscope are relied on for the same purpose, erroneous and crude notions must prevail of the nature of human maladies, and an equally erroneous mode

of treatment will be employed. The vital doctrine of Stahl will be revived and the result will be favorable to the healing art.

#### PROPHYLACTIC VIRTUES OF BELLADONNA AGAINST SCARLET FEVER.

The *Edinburg Monthly Journal* contains an article on the above subject by Dr. Newbigging. "We extract," says the *Western Lancet*, "only those observations which relate to the protective agency of belladonna."

Scarlet fever having prevailed in this institution to so considerable an extent, and the cases having occurred in close succession, notwithstanding a system of separation, as complete as was possible amongst inmates residing under the same roof, I felt desirous to try the effect of belladonna as a prophylactic against this disease. It was an opportunity such as rarely occurs for the investigation of the alleged virtue of this drug on a large scale.

Having ascertained the number of children unaffected with scarlet fever, or who were uncertain as to ever having had it—making, in all, sixty-nine—I directed that belladonna should be administered to them, in the proportion of one-sixth to one-fourth of a grain twice a-day, according to the age of each child—the first dose being given before breakfast, and the last dose at bed-time. This plan was adopted on the 16th October. Three new cases occurred between that and the 20th. After that date no child was affected, nor has there been any instance of scarlet-fever since that period in the institution. The use of this preventive was continued during upwards of five weeks.

It may, perhaps, be asked why the belladonna was not administered at an earlier stage of the epidemic—indeed, on the first occurrence of a case of scarlatina? My answer to this apposite question, I confess, is not perfectly satisfactory, viz.: want of faith, and hence confidence, in the prophylactic properties of belladonna, and this though aware of the report made at the Orphan Hospital of Langendorf, in Prussia, in a family of 160 individuals, where belladonna having been administered immediately on the occurrence of the epidemic, two only took the disease.

I should now consider it my duty to lose no time in making use of this medicine on the first appearance of this disease, and I would strongly recommend the same plan of practice to those of the profession who are connected with similar educational institutions, with the view, not merely of attempting to ward off a malady so uncertain in its progress, and occasionally so fatal in its termination, but also with the object of accumulating information on a point of such paramount importance to the public health.

The above is one of the important discoveries of Hahnemann; and although allopathists are now availing themselves of it, for the interest of the public health, yet they are so lost to a sense of honor in this respect, they do not assign to that illustrious physician the credit to which he is justly entitled.

Dr. N. has not stated his doses with precision. We presume it was the ordinary extract of belladonna of the shops; and the "one-sixth to one-fourth" of a grain, was thought by an allopathist to be an approximation of Hahnemann's doses for the same purpose; and we are not sure but these doses of the extract of that plant was much nearer the doses of the homœopath than Dr. Newbigging was aware of; for the medicinal power of belladonna is much diminished by the mode of preparing the extract. We think the third or even the thirtieth attenuation of the expressed juice of the green plant, would excite the organism of children more than the usual extract in the doses named. Dr. N.'s relation of his experience in the matter under notice, suggests to our mind, that if allopathists would undertake to test by careful experiment Hahnemann's treatment of the scarlet fever, as well as his practice in all disease, they might find other points of "paramount importance to the public health." When allopathists cease to venerate the authority of men, and allow themselves to feel the force of truth whomsoever may be the medium of it, we shall have hope of them; and not until then. This confidence in "*authorities*" is no part of our faith. We should not care a straw for the opinions of Dr. A., B., or C., but the truth should be sought industriously and perseveringly, and in the most careful experiments, and by the most exact reasoning. Medical men have become subjects of ridicule with the intelligent on account of their loose reasoning on the subject of their profession, and for their efforts in glorifying one another on paper under the terms "*authorities*," "*high authorities*," "*highest authorities*," &c. &c.

#### HAS IT COME TO THIS?

The Allopathic school of medicine claims for itself true honor, and an abhorrence of meanness. To such a height is this carried, that whoever dares to dissent from allopathic theories and allopathic practice is liable to be denounced as having betrayed his honor and rendered himself worthy the scorn and con-

tempt of all men. So much of late years has been uttered on the dignity of the profession, by allopathic societies, associations, colleges and academies, that we were led to suspect rottenness somewhere; that all this claim to honor, honesty, and dignity was but a cloak to cover ignorance and hypocrisy. It is well known that the medical profession has always regarded advertising in the newspapers by any of its members as unbecoming, and partaking of the movements of the quack; and all codes of ethics contain an express article on this point. The new code of ethics adopted by the American Medical Association, and glorified so much by medical Journals, expressly denounces such a mode of proceeding. Lately we have noticed a virtual violation of this rule by those who occupy high places, and if continued it needs no prophet to foresee that in a short time the newspapers will be as full of paid "*puffs*" of professors of our colleges, as of quack advertisements. In this city, it is known, that the payment of twenty-five cents a line will secure the insertion in our papers of the largest circulation a fulsome notice of any Physician written by an Editor or the Physician himself. The people do not seem to be aware of this deception, and thereby are often deluded into misplaced confidence. Some of our professors have undertaken this system, and on account of their heretofore high standing, few suspect the dishonorable means to keep themselves before the public eye. The liberality of our views and feelings does not allow us to object to any one who may see fit to advertize, we have never been friendly to conventional rules on this subject, but let those who do so, do it in a straight-forward, business-like manner, and not under the cloak of an Editor. We do not complain that proprietors of newspapers demand high pay for their "*puffs*" of medical men; but let the people understand they are "*puffs*."

#### THE MEDICAL DIPLOMA ITS VALUE.

We are not of those who regard a medical diploma a useless document. Its real value, however, should be distinctly understood. The diploma is evidence that the possessor has read medicine and surgery, attended lectures in a college, and passed an examination. It is no evidence of talents, professional skill or even industry in study; nor does it prove a thorough



knowledge of all that pertains to an accomplished physician and surgeon. The diploma constitutes the owner a regular member of the profession. It has no relation whatever to doctrines or modes of practice. The holder of it is not bound by any thing it contains, or any thing it implies to embrace particular theories, doctrines or modes of practice in his profession; he is left free in these respects, being under no obligation to the colleges or his colleagues what doctrine in medicine he adopts. The regular members of the profession, therefore, are those who hold diplomas, and whoever undertakes, by word or act, to deprive such of their standing as regular members of the profession on account of doctrines and practice, is guilty of an outrage.

A disciple of Galen, of Brown, of Broussais, of Thompson, or of Hahnemann, if he holds a diploma from an institution with chartered power to confer it, is a regular member of the profession, and should not be deprived of the honor thus bestowed upon him, but in a legal way. Nor can the absurdity of the doctrines he may embrace, become the basis of a cause of action in this country for such a purpose. When, therefore, the followers of Galen, Brown, Broussais and Forbes, assume that they alone are the "regulars," and denounce the disciples of Hahnemann as "irregular," although possessing the same diploma as themselves, they are not only guilty of folly, but of crime, in attempting to deprive a portion of their colleagues of the standing which the law of the country has assigned to them.

The lofty claims of allopathists to exclusive regularity is as baseless as their theories and doctrines, and in the end will prove as injurious to them professionally as their practice is to the sick.

#### DISCOVERY BY AN ALLOPATHIST.

A writer in a Pittsburgh paper in a long article against Homœopathy, has the following:

"How such silly conceits and such a do-nothing practice should have succeeded, even for a short time, to gull so many individuals, would be truly surprising, if we did not know the natural tendency of the human mind towards the novel and marvellous, and the unscrupulous spirit of charlatanry. It is, if not impossible, certainly in the highest degree, improbable, that the doses professed to be given by the Homœopathists can cause any material change, except by mental impressions in the functions of the body in health or disease.

"The masses of society are incapable of appreciating the real condition of the science of medicine, but it is astonishing to see the numerous instances of credulity continually exhibited on this subject, by men of great moral worth and general intelligence—men who, in many other matters, would reject an irrational proposition as an insult to their understanding—who would spurn boastful ignorance and unblushing pretence as something to be loathed—and yet, nevertheless, surrender themselves, body and conscience, into the keeping of the veriest fools or vilest knaves in creation, when they approach them in the capacity of a medical empiric!"

Allopathists are a remarkable class of men; after they reach the age of forty years they have no "tendency" to "the novel and marvellous," but all the world beside, they say, have a "natural tendency" in that direction. This is the reason, according to this Pittsburgh scribbler, why so many embrace Homœopathy. This is, what some allopathists would term, a most profound intellectual effort. Our own opinion of it we shall not attempt to express.

"The masses of society are incapable of appreciating the real condition of the science of medicine." This is clearly a blunder. It should read, a majority of allopathic physicians are incapable, &c.: then it would express a truth. "The masses of society" in this country are the most correct thinkers in the world, they are seldom, if ever wrong, but should they be so, there is a sort of self-adjusting power, among them, that very soon sets them right. "The masses of society" begin to appreciate the allopathic science of medicine, and they look upon it as not only one of the greatest "*humbugs*" of the day; but they also perceive that by its pernicious agency the most affectionate relations have been severed; and thousands of widows and fatherless children are wasting away by mourning and poverty, because husbands and fathers have found premature graves, by means of that agent of the Devil—allopathy.

That man who regards the people of this country incapable of investigating and appreciating any subject, in which their interest is concerned, could not, certainly, have been educated in America; but if there be such a one among us, a native-born citizen, then it is plain he is forsaken of God, and *demented*.

"The masses of society" are declaring against allopathy and in favor of homœopathy; and it is as impossible for allopathists to prevent the adoption of the one, and the rejection of the

other, as it is for the senior members of the profession to comprehend "*similia similibus curantur*." The thousands of "the masses of society" who positively know they are daily recovering of maladies by homœopathic remedies, which years of trial of allopathic failed to accomplish, are so many trumpet-tongued truth-telling witnesses, which the world of man will not attempt to gainsay. As of old, so it is now, "I was once blind, but now I see." I was sick, allopathy could not cure me, I am now well, and homœopathy did it. This is the testimony which will overthrow allopathists and allopathy.

It is impossible that the doses of medicine given by the homœopathists can have any effect. The people reply, we have tried them ourselves, and we have the highest possible evidence of their efficacy—consciousness. Now "it is, if not impossible, certainly in the highest degree improbable," that medical treatment founded upon such evidence can be regarded quackery, or that those who are its practitioners will be avoided for the "veriest fools or vilest knaves in creation."

"Men of great moral worth and general intelligence" do "spurn boastful ignorance and unblushing pretence as something to be loathed." This is taking place daily, as the Pittsburgh writer shows, in the reception by such persons of homœopathia and homœopathists; and in their rejection of allopathy and allopathists.

### SPEEDY CURES.

The people universally believe in the speedy cure of diseases. This is an error of a very pernicious tendency. Physicians are at fault in this matter, for too many are ever ready to promise quick cures, although thousands upon thousands of cases prove that generally such promises are founded in ignorance or hypocrisy.

Every disease proper, requires time to cure it. When Hahnemann stated that it would take two years to cure some forms of chronic diseases, he was ridiculed by the profession, and even some of his pretended disciples at the present day, join the opposition, against this doctrine; nevertheless the remark is true as is known by every candid and experienced physician. The honor of the profession, the safety of the sick, and much of the happiness of man, demand that this serious error should be corrected.

How long, Doctor, will it take to cure me? The answer should be. I don't know. It may take three, six, twelve or twenty-four months. Those who are afflicted with chronic diseases, should be told that it is unreasonable to look for a speedy cure. We could relate numerous instances which show how important it is to instruct patients on this subject.

About six years ago we saw a lady and gentleman of this city, who were predisposed to *phthisis pulmonalis*, which was present in the incipient stage. The gentleman had had two attacks of bleeding from the lungs. These persons were under treatment for three years, and were cured. For the last three years they have not needed the services of a physician. They do not, to use their own language to us a few days ago "even take a cold." From the experience of others, and our own, we cannot be mistaken in the value of a long and uninterrupted homœopathic treatment of chronic affections of the chest.

Seven years ago a young lady was expectorating pus; had hectic fever; was almost strengthless; was much emaciated; had uterine hemorrhage, &c. This case was almost cured, but it was on account a continued homœopathic treatment for four years. This patient visited us lately, and said, that she had increased so much in flesh and strength, that she wished to know if it was her improving health.

A gentleman with clearly-marked *phthisis pulmonalis*, pronounced by his allopathic physicians beyond the reach of medicine, is now enjoying good health after eighteen months homœopathic treatment.

Every physician of the *Hahnemannian* school could report if they would, cases similar to those, which show that in chronic diseases especially we must make haste slowly.

Those numerous cases of costiveness or constipation, as they are improperly termed, can all be cured by a continued treatment of from three to six months; some of them, however, yield in as many weeks.

Chronic affections of the eyes generally speaking, can be permanently cured, by a very long treatment. It is useless to undertake these diseases, unless the subjects of them are willing to submit to treatment for two or three years.

In acute diseases the period is much shorter. The homœopathic treatment of these affections, when compared with the allopathic, diminishes the time about one half; and yet



patients from the instructions of allopathists expect, for example, that a severe pneumonia should be cured in two or three days. It is also believed that the pain of an acute rheumatism should be removed in a few hours, or instantly, but as this cannot be done, dissatisfaction in this respect leads to a change in the medical attendant, and one is selected who promises immediate relief. This error in regard to time in the cure of diseases is full of mischief; it is a wide open door for the admission of the grossest quackery; it leads to that practice termed "heroic" by allopathists, which lays the foundation for a life of suffering, and a premature death. Observe the thousands of pale, weak and sickly-looking persons in our large cities, who for the sake of a speedy cure, have yielded to large and repeated bleedings; to large doses of mercury; to a continued use of quinine and other drugs almost as pernicious.

Listen to the denunciations of homœopathy by those who were unwisely promised a speedy cure; but after a trial of a few days or a month, found no benefit; but if these persons had been told the truth, their health might have been restored, and the credit of the only safe and certain treatment would have been preserved.

Therefore, let the people understand that to fix a time for the cure of any disease is fallacious.

### ATTENUATED MEDICINE.

Professor Small in his introductory address delivered in the Homœopathic medical college of Pennsylvania, and published in the Quarterly Homœopathic Journal, has the following which we present to sceptics in homœopathia. "It is very absurd," they say, "to suppose that an attenuated dose can affect a sick person favorably;" notwithstanding they admit, that an attenuated miasm has made him sick; such is the consistency of modern theory and practice. But if we view the matter in a true light, we shall not overlook the physiological fact, that a vital principle exercises supreme control both in health and in disease, susceptible of being affected at all times, either favorably or unfavorably by dynamic agencies.

It is absurd to preconcert the extent of medicinal action upon the size of the dose; for the invisible vascula of the smaller vessels may

"imbibe that which cannot be appreciated by the senses, and, by a vital process, the whole system may be subjected to its influence."

The petition of the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine will be mailed to every Homœopathic physician of the State, whose address can be ascertained. They are requested to obtain as many names to the petition as possible, and transmit them to the Legislature without delay. It is presumed that every physician of our school, and every friend of Homœopathy in this State will feel that their own interest is concerned in this important movement of the Academy, and will act promptly and efficiently.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal is a remarkable example of the adage "every dog must have his bone." That periodical is alarmed lest its readers should suspect it favoring homœopathy. It may rest easy, for none but the most illiterate of the profession would deem it possible for that Journal to have fixed principles on any subject in medicine.

Allopathic physicians of this city have turned politicians, a rather poor trade; but unlike what ever happened among them in their profession, they agree to a man, to oppose the election to office of any one who favors homœopathia. This is a small business, but *small* men are well adapted to it.

Our friend, Dr. ———, insists that allopathists are demented. He is a learned man, of unusual observation and of large experience. He argued the point ingeniously and ably for an hour the other evening, but failed to convince us, although many of his facts were forcible, even startling.

*Jahr's Clinical Guide, or Pocket Repertory for the Treatment of Acute and Chronic Diseases.* Translated by Chas. J. Hempel, M. D. New-York: Wm. Radde. Price \$1.50.

This is a very useful work. It is convenient for the pocket. It is a repertory, and we think it the best that has yet appeared. We use it daily in our own practice.

## HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

A public meeting of the Academy was held at Hope Chapel, Broadway, on Wednesday evening, 9th inst, at which the President, Dr. Jno. F. Gray, delivered his Inaugural Address, as follows :

GENTLEMEN: One of the purposes of this Academy is the teaching of the science of Medicine ; and for the effective fulfilment of this purpose, it is proposed to apply to the Legislature of the State for the appointment of a Board of Examiners from its body, who may recommend successful candidates to the State for the degree of Doctor of Medicine. The plan of the Academy does not contemplate the erection of another monopoly ; the appointment of a Board of six or seven teachers, with the exclusive title of Professor, and the exclusive power to grant or sell the degrees ; nor does it exact of its candidates that they shall have attended the lecture of its teachers, or those of any other incorporated college of teachers. It proposes that the Candidate, whether he come from this Academy or any other institution of Medical learning, or from any private teachers of Medicine, shall be examined by an impartial Board, who shall not be pecuniarily interested in the business of teaching ; and that the examination shall be so conducted as fully and fairly to test the knowledge of the Candidate and at the same time to exemplify the fulness and fairness of such test in every case. In the undivided opinion of the Academy, the great need of the State in respect to Medical education is the reformation of the present system of examination ; not the creation of more monopolies, nor the invigoration of the pernicious system which already flourishes but too well, by the grants of larger sums of money than those that are already wasted on them from the coffers of the State ; but the patient and faithful inquiry at the hand of each of the new aspirants for the honor of Medicine and for the sacred trusts of the sick-room, if he have the knowledge—so diversified and profound, so exact and entire—which those honors and trusts, the demands of the State and the wants of the sick, wounded and dying, require of him. If the examination be made a verity, if it be made by the Government what it should be, the demand for more knowledge will assuredly produce the supply, it will beget the industry and assiduity on the part of the student necessary to put him in indisputable possession of his degree, and it will as certainly make the student find and follow the teachers, whether private or public, known to fame or awaiting in obscurity the development of their career, who can give him the precious aids he must obtain.

The force of this maxim, that the demand will create the supply, is fully shown by the results which have flowed from the "*Staats Examen*," or State Examination—a Board

appointed in several of the German States for the examination of the doctors from the Universities before permitting them to practise their profession.

The theory of this Institution is, that the people require some other voucher for the qualifications of the young Doctor than the diploma given to him by the Professors of the university at which he completed his studies ; because, these Professors being engaged in a competition with other schools for numbers of graduates, would have a strong bias in favor of the candidate, however deficient in knowledge he might be—a bias too strong for the safety of the sick. Accordingly, the Government constitutes a suitable number of Physicians, not Professors, a board of License, who are charged with the duty of making a rigorous investigation of the candidate's qualifications, and who are compelled to keep a full record of the whole procedure in each case, under which each Examiner writes his vote, admitting or rejecting the candidate. The whole is under the surveillance of the Government, and is carefully inspected by the Ministry of the Public Health. Since this excellent system—simple, upright and perfect in operation—was adopted in Denmark and Prussia, now some 50 years, the most beneficial results have flowed from it on a large scale ; indeed, a new era in teaching Medicine and all its collateral sciences has broken upon Germany, and its benefits, especially in Physiology, Chemistry and Pathology, are felt by the whole civilized world. A somewhat similar practice has been established by the Government of the United States for admission into the Army and Navy Medical service, with known and very striking results so far as these branches of the public service is concerned ; but the demand as to numbers is too small for it to have any appreciable effect on our Medical Colleges.

The Academy proposes to adopt this method of examination and to require of its candidates not only a full knowledge of the various and opposing modes of practice in Allopathy, but also an equally intimate acquaintance with the theory and practice of Homœopathy.

In this requirement it supplies a manifest deficiency in the existing system of medical examination and instruction. The schools not only do not teach nor require an acquaintance with the researches and records of Homœopathy, but they discourage this acquirement on the part of students and refuse themselves to investigate them.

Homœopathy, right or wrong, has nevertheless taken a deep hold on the mind of the civilized world, and, whether the schools will or no, it must form a part, and that a most important one, of both public and private teaching in medicine.

Already have we here in the State of New-York more than 300,000 popular adherents to this mode of practice, of whom 60,000 reside in New-York and Brooklyn ; and this party includes in its ranks a very large proportion of



the men and women of talent and education in the State—and of the regular graduated and licensed physicians and surgeons of the State, not less than 300 are avowed practitioners of Homœopathy, beside a considerable number who are privately testing it on themselves and their patients.

A similar condition of the system exists in several of the States of the republic; and in Pennsylvania there is a regularly incorporated school of Homœopathy, which though organized upon the objectionable plan of the colleges of the common practice, is in successful operation as to numbers and money, and serves at least to mark the truth of what we assert respecting the advancement of our cause in the public faith.

In Germany the system steadily advances, as also in Russia, Italy, Spain and Great Britain and Ireland. In Vienna the hospital of the Sisters of Mercy with its enormous roll of 1,500 patients, continues to employ our practice, after many years of uninterrupted experience; as ought to be the case here.

In Bavaria by an express decree of the Government, patients in all the public Hospitals and other charities, are permitted to have Homœopathic physicians in attendance if they choose.

In Russia the Government has, by an imperial ukase, provided carefully for the distribution of Homœopathic remedies throughout its vast domains.

The people of Great Britain have recently done very much for the new practice, by the founding of infirmaries in all the principal cities, towns, and by organizing a powerful association of the nobility and gentry, amounting to some 1,300, for the publication of popular essays on the subject, and are now founding a large Hospital in London. The infirmaries appear to be well supported by the liberality of the opulent, and they are dispensing remedies to the sick poor on a large scale.

In Brunswick the Duke has promulgated a decree permitting medical men to practise Homœopathy. This proceeding was rendered necessary by the prosecution of the late venerable Dr. Muhlenbein for preparing his own remedies, instead of ordering them from the apothecaries, who enjoy a monopoly of their business by law.

Having such a hold on the public faith, and being in 99-100ths of cases adopted and practised by members of the regular faculty here and everywhere, the Academy deems its claim on the Government of this State to grant it the ability to dispense the Degree of Doctor of Medicine a valid claim upon this ground alone.

The system, right or wrong, has exhibited abundant testimony of its vigor and vitality. First promulgated in 1796, more than fifty years since, it has steadily though slowly advanced, encroaching everywhere, step by step, upon the domains of Allopathy, receding at no point, ever gaining new adherents in the profession and never losing one by relapse or retrocession.

At all points met by the same bitter antagonism in and out of the profession, it has withstood the irony, the ridicule and the erroneous statements of every kind which its ready and powerful opponents have brought to bear against its advances—ever patiently pointing to its beneficent fruits at the bedside of the sick, as at once the best possible reply to all *a priori* demonstrations of its fallacy, and the surest rejoinder to assaults of a baser character.

One by one have the decrees of despotic governments against it been repealed; book after book, written to insure its speedy destruction, has disappeared from the face of society; associations formed and prosecutions undertaken for its extinction, by legal force and by voluntary co-operation, have been all successfully abandoned; and here is to-day Homœopathy, bearing the same traits of vigorous development and giving the same promise of perpetuity as if not one of these decrees had been uttered, not one of these books of controversy been published, a single association of exclusion formed, nor a prosecution undertaken.

As an additional presage of the durability of our system, we may advert to the state of its literature, which, though marked in some few instances by glaring deficiencies, is on the whole in a prosperous condition. First, we have the preliminary Essays of Hahnemann, (one of which has been within a few months reprinted by the British Homœopathic Association: ) then the Organon, now in its seventh edition; and, lastly, his great work on Chronic Diseases, the fourth edition of which was issued in Germany in the 85th year of its author's age. Then follows the *Materia Medica Pura*, which is continually coming from the press, either entire or in abridgments, in every civilized country on the globe.

The work on Acute Diseases, by Dr. Hartman, has been rendered into French and English, and has in Germany passed through several editions.

Jahr's Manual has had several German editions, four or five in English, and two or three in French; and his last great work, the *Symptomen Codex*, finished scarcely a year since, is already nearly exhausted.

The parent Journal of Homœopathy, (the Archives,) published by Stapf, is now in the 27th year of its unabated career.

The British Journal of Homœopathy, many copies of which circulate in the United States, has reached the 5th volume, and gives abundant promise, by its liberality and energy, of a long and useful course.

In this country we have one quarterly Journal for the profession, issued in Boston, and the American Journal for popular distribution.

Beside these standard works of the school, and the Journals enumerated, we have a large number of works scientific and popular, which it is not necessary to cite, but many of which are performing tasks of much virtue for the aid of physicians and for the propagation of the cause.



We put our claim for the power we seek also on another and a higher ground. We assert, on proofs which can be adduced in abundance, that Homœopathy is an acknowledged part of the medical art of the present day; that its truth has already been sufficiently admitted by able and leading men of the Old School, although many, perhaps all, of these have made reservations as to the universality of its application.

In support of this position, I take the liberty to make use of a few of the quotations contained in a recent work.

[These quotations are omitted.]

There should be no coercion on the part of the State in this matter of medical doctrines, for very obvious reasons; but the State should undertake to aid in the advancement of Medical Science by measures which shall permit the conflict of opinions among the members of the profession to take place in the presence of the learners of that science—it should open a fair field and show no favor to any combatant in the lists.

Such is not now the case. Nowhere in the State is there room for a chair of Homœopathy, nor is there room in any Board of Examiners for the presence of a Homœopathic physician.

Our system is not only not taught to candidates of medicine and surgery, but their ears are filled to stunning with denials of its truth, and with entreaties and warnings not to examine nor test its pretensions. We contend that they should have a chance to hear the other side, an opportunity to judge for themselves, before going to the difficult and but too often dangerous task of their lives. As the case now stands, there is a kind of coercion of conformity with the Old School, sustained by the State, which ought to be abolished. A Board of Examination should be created, which should be empowered, nay, commanded by law to examine the candidate in all the existing methods of practice.

The relation of the government towards the sick, is not justly that of a chooser of his physician—a judge of the values of discordant modes of practice—but it is that of an efficient witness that the men who bear its licenses are learned in the Art of Healing; that they know the structure and functions of the human body, the forms and powers of medicines, and that they are well acquainted with all the various theories and practical results of their learned and skilful predecessors in the art.

It is to our mind so self-evident, that this constitutes the whole duty of the State in the matter of Medical Science, that we would not, if we could gain our petition, ask for powers which should enable us to exact conformity with our theory and practice, although we consider them of the utmost importance to the true honor, happiness and usefulness of the members of the medical profession, and of inestimable value to the sick and dying. We hold that a forced conformity in medicine is as ty-

rannical and inexpedient as it is in theology, and that its fruits would be as injurious to personal progress in our art as is the other to personal purity in morals.

To render the principles of any art operative in another, we must so convey them to him as that in perfect freedom he sees the truth, and by a process of his own adapts them to his rational faculty, so that they become as much his property as if he had discovered them himself. It is thus, and only thus, that a pupil can be made a master; he must learn the principles so thoroughly, digest them so perfectly, that, under the affinities of his moral and intellectual life, they become assimilated to and a component part of his very being. A forced or external assent to principles which he has not so appropriated, fills his mind with vague fancies which fatigue and perplex him, even to the loathing of all research; and it removes from the sense of capacity to perform, from himself, real exercises of skill in his nominal art or profession; it paralyzes alike his love of the objects of his art and his power of accomplishing them.

That some ideas of the similitude or accord between the forces of remedies and the diseases which they cure, enter into the minds of medical men of the Old School, is shown from the quotations made by Hahnemann, from many of the elder authors, and particularly from those of Hippocrates, Dioscorides, Paracelsus, Stahl and Hoffman. It is openly shown in the writings of Hufeland, Forbes, Liston, Combe, Fletcher and Milligen of our times; and nothing is more frequently said by Allopathic physicians in conversation with Homœopaths, than that they believe there is truth, great truth, in the law *similia similibus*, but that they do not believe in the minute doses of the New School. Were this a fitting occasion for such a polemical essay, I think I could show from the various ingenious attempts of able writers of the Old School to explain the specific adaptation of several of the drugs to the diseases they are known to cure without producing other sensible effects, that the Homœopathic law of cure has been, and is more frequently (though perhaps not sharply) contemplated by the prescriber, than even he is willing to admit to himself.

If, then, the Homœopathic method be a tacit part, as we have shown it to be, of the lucubrations of many of the Old School, can any sufficient reason be shown why a systematic knowledge of it should not be required of every student who comes to the State authorities for a diploma or testimonial that he is a thoroughly instructed physician? If there be gross fallacies in it, let him study it, that he may be able to defend himself and his patients from their influence; but if haply, as a whole, it proves a better system than the dominant one, let him be enabled to apply its benefits with promptness, and without the terrible labor of suddenly acquiring a new art, under the distracting pressure of great peril and suffering.



Were the Government a competent tribunal for the trial of the great question at issue between the two schools, it would be incumbent on us to show, by appropriate testimony and argument, that Homœopathy presents the only philosophic guide in the choice of remedies, and that, consequently, it is the first real contribution to a rational art of healing. We believe it would not be difficult to establish this proposition clearly and irrefragably, even before an enlightened non-professional audience. Indeed, this work has been repeatedly done for the profession by Hahnemann and by several of his ablest disciples, of whom we may cite Moritz Muller of Dresden, Rau of Giessen, and Dr. Channing of this city. Dr. Channing's essay is entitled the "*Reformation of Medical Science demanded by Inductive Philosophy*," and is devoted to the proposition that "*Homœopathy is the first successful generalization of the powers of the Materia Medica*;" and it is perhaps no more than a just tribute to the learning, the humanity and the genius of its gifted author, to say that this unanswered and unanswerable work is an honor to the cause he so thoroughly embraced, and to the medical character of the country which gave him birth. The late lamented Gram, the founder of Homœopathy in the Western world, published, on his first arrival in this country, in 1826, a brief but powerful pamphlet on this subject, from the German of Hahnemann, entitled "*The Spirit of the Homœopathic Doctrine*," which no man of the Old School has attempted to answer.

But, while maintaining with perfect truth and unanimity the importance of Homœopathy to the right understanding of the *Materia Medica*, and to the safe administration of remedies by medical men of all sects and of all coming times, we found no claim on the Government from this ground, because we condemn any and all interference, direct or indirect, with the tenets of medical science or art, on the part of any Government, as a despotism in principle and a tyranny in practice, alike subversive of the rights of physician and patient, and detrimental to all freedom of inquiry and all sound medical education.

As the final consideration of this discourse I will say that the Academy craves the aid of the State in the way indicated, that the members now living may raise the standard of medical education within their own ranks.

It is our earnest wish to discharge a great duty toward our successors; we wish, by placing before them stronger incentives to research than does the present system, to make them better students than we have been.

As the usages of the profession now are, our system, which requires far more real knowledge for its just administration than does the old, must continue to be most imperfectly, nay, most culpably administered in this country.

We lack, in all this most happy land, the painstaking perfectness of academic learning and of preliminary medical learning, which

our profession of both Schools possess in Germany, and, in fact, throughout the Continent of Europe. This deficiency is sad enough in the Old School, but its effect in ours is a thousand-fold worse. The man of good strong preparation in Allopathic practice will, for reasons which it is needless for me here to cite, be as apt to follow as to lead in a consultation with a brother Allopathist of very slight literary and scientific attainments. Empiricism, in its highest sense, is the strong fortress of Old School practice, and the ignorant physician has often as sharp a memory of practical results, both good and evil, as his abler colleague.

Such is not the case with Homœopathy. The *Materia Medica* must be read—nay, explored, perpetually to discover the relation of accord or similitude between each case of disease and its suitable remedy; no possible effort of genius nor conceivable strength of memory can be trusted in place of this eternal vigilance.

And for the right, not to say dexterous, performance of this inevitable task an exactitude and extent of knowledge in the languages is of the highest conceivable value.

Moreover, as perfect a knowledge of Physiology and Pathology as the state of these sciences will admit, is ever necessary to the true Homœopathist; for by these aids, and by these only, can he so appreciate the value of symptoms as to be able to know which of them it is essential for him to cover by his remedy, in order to attain in each case the highest aim and end of his art.

This kind of knowledge, though of use to the Physician of the old school, and indispensable to an exalted rank among his colleagues, is not indispensable to his choice of remedies; for his choice depends on the revolutionary and violent processes which they are capable of producing by classes or groups in common, such as vomiting, purging, stupefaction of the senses, &c. &c.—not on the specific characteristics in detail which can only be disclosed by trials on the healthy and which form an important natural alliance with the characteristic symptoms of disease. Now to trace this alliance in a case requiring the skill of art imposes the deeply interesting task on the Homœopathist of reviewing the play of the functions in a healthy state and a study of them in an analogous disease; and this review and study is not for the transcendental purpose of discovering the quantitative or qualitative changes in the vital powers of the sufferer, (an eternal ignis fatuus in the old school on which it affects to found its indications of art,) but for the plainly practical purpose of selecting a specific counter-force which experience has shown to be a true, direct, unfailing remedy.

Moreover, this knowledge is very important to enable the Homœopathist to meet a dilemma of very frequent occurrence in the present imperfect state of the *Materia Medica*—namely, the cases in which the records of the Ma-



teria Medica do not afford him an apt and perfect similitum.

Here he can attack but one wing of the disease at a time; and Pathology alone can inform him which symptoms the safety of his patient demands of him to attack first and strongest.

These two departments of human knowledge, Pharmacodynamics and Pathology, are growing with enormous rapidity, and, without early and earnest training, the student of Medicine without facility in reading the modern languages (especially the German and French) cannot keep such pace with their progress as to do the justice to his patients which the cause of Homœopathy and of humanity will claim at his hands. Without the legal ability to examine candidates of Medicine and the consequent influence on teaching which such power confers, we cannot prepare our successors for the righteous discharge of the duties which time, by removing us, will devolve on them; and our good cause must continue to suffer as it now does in the house of its friends.

Gentlemen of the Academy, at your request I have glanced at the manifold topics contained in your relations with the State as a body incorporated by one of its enactments; as an association of Physicians seeking, in an open, free and honorable manner, to do a lasting benefit to the next and succeeding generations, by effecting an organic change in the medical education of the State.

The nature of the subject, to say nothing of my want of time and abilities, precludes its full discussion in the short space allotted to a single lecture: and I should quit it with very great dissatisfaction, did I not feel well assured that you would take ampler means to press your just claims on the attention of the Legislature during its present session.

Permit me, gentlemen, before taking the chair to which you have kindly called me, to congratulate you on the vantage ground which you have gained by your recent act of association. You have not only taken one important step toward insuring that the increase of practitioners demanded by the popular growth of our cause shall consist of rightly qualified students of the whole science of Medicine, but you have brought yourselves into such personal relations as to forestall and heal the differences which invade the ranks of our profession of every school.

You have moreover combined under such auspices and laws as to ensure a good result with respect to the practical skill of each diligent member of the Academy, and also to produce a zealous and harmonious adherence to the great leading maxims of the Homœopathic system.

This trait of your association has given me more pleasure than I have words to express; it has made me proudly willing to stand here and avow and defend the public purpose of the Academy; to show that you propose to

aid in the propagation of a mild and beneficial reform in the art of Healing by means as free as is the air we breathe or the waters we drink; that you will teach the science of medicine by a competition which can have no other incentive and no other goal than to impart the greatest sum of knowledge in the most efficacious manner and at the least possible expense to the learner; and that you freely invite any regularly authorized physician or surgeon, who chooses to become a member of your Academy, to take the chances, which his genius and learning and skill may give him, to win from you the classes whom your talents or the combined forces of your Institution may have drawn within its walls.

With ineffable gratification do I say to all such in your behalf, and to the student and likewise to the world: Let him who merits it bear the palm; that the interests of the sick, the needs of the bright young aspirant and the true honor and dignity of a liberal and learned profession, claim alike and together this your noble freedom of discussion, this entireness of human right in the exercise of man's most sacred task, the transmission to others and to posterity of Truths which bear charity in their bosom.

This number of the Journal has been delayed to lay before our readers the above address. We have no room for comment, but shall notice some of the doctrines advanced in it, in our next number. We will only remark that the great and essential point of the address is the examination for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, which receives our hearty concurrence.

J. EDW. STOHLMANN,

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW-YORK, FEBRUARY, 1850.

RETROSPECT, ETC., OF HOMŒO-  
PATHY.

—  
BY DR. RUCKERT.  
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*Retrospect.—The one thing necessary.—Notices.—Call upon practical Homœopaths.*

WHEN I cast a glance at the year 1821, as, full of heat and enthusiasm for the new theory of cure, *similia similibus*, I returned to my home, the upper part of Lusatia, where, with the exception of my friend Dr. Schönke, no promulgator of Hahnemann's great discovery had arrived, with nothing in hand but the Organon, and the first volumes of the *Materia Medica Pura*, and Hahnemann's call to us few scholars,—“Imitate, but imitate strictly,”—as well as the small number of the medicines hitherto known and proved, which we ourselves tried and ourselves prepared, there being as yet no archive for Homœopathy, nor even a repertorium, the only thing to be done being to penetrate by intense study into the provings of

the medicines presented to us; our business was, standing alone, to compare the observations made by ourselves, and to procure preparations of the medicines, in order to aid as much as possible the weakness of the memory; and when I then look at Homœopathy in its present form, after twenty-seven years, and see with what masses of medicines it has become enriched since that time, the manifold ways in which these are prepared, in order to facilitate for the physician the finding of that which is most applicable in any given case; when I further consider for how many diseases medicines have been discovered, of which there was a deficiency before,—how much the library of Homœopathic literature has been increased,—what advantages the physician who is disposed to study Homœopathy has at his command, compared with those which he had twenty-seven years ago, I cannot but feel grateful to the Creator who has furnished his favorite, man, with so many ways to procure aid in the great diversity of diseases. But what matters all this, when we consider these two important points? Have we, as ministers of Esculapius, all proceeded in the right road to the perfecting and improving our profession, the healing art, the great boon of Heaven? Or have we deviated into a variety of by-roads? An experimental science, as Homœopathy is, can be perfected only by observing nature and by experiments, not by speculation, as may be seen to be the practice of the old school, the latter requiring almost as many thousands of years for its erection, as the younger school tens of years; the one occupying itself in building hypothesis on hypothesis, whilst the younger school confines itself to simple observation. The only two right roads were adopted by Homœopathy, as soon as its disciples commenced to publish works; their archives contained excellent cases and valuable provings of medicines. In the latter respect

much had been done in the course of the twenty-seven years just elapsed; we possess a no inconsiderable number of well-proved, half-proved, and imperfectly-proved medicines, to become acquainted with all of which, and to employ them correctly in practice, would require close study and intense application, but of which many were entirely useless,—nay, even scarcely known by many a practical Homœopath as he finds himself sufficiently competent to succeed with a number of well-proved medicines, whose action he thoroughly understands, partly by trying them on the healthy body, and partly by practice in the sick-room. With respect to its being better, thoroughly to prove the medicines already known, than constantly to search after new ones, we know that in recent times several physicians have made laudable exertion in that department. Acknowledging how important for the best interests of Homœopathy the communication of successful cases may prove, we obtained several of them in our archives, in the annals, in several smaller works and journals, in the hope that in a little time a good collection of them might be obtained, and that a compilation might be made which would be useful to all. Unfortunately this hope was disappointed. It was not long till men entered our ranks, to whom Hahnemann's theory seemed too simple for the practitioner of the healing art. It did not seem to them learned enough, to confine themselves simply to the external phenomena of disease, and then to select a remedy according to the most similar signs. People began to consider matters with more prying inspection: from individualizing they began to adopt the method of generalizing; the word *Homœopathic* was found not to be at all suitable, which Hahnemann, in his partial and one-sided view of matters, had introduced: instead of this the term *specific* was selected: and henceforward nothing would serve our turn but specifics.

By the adoption of such conduct, persons no longer appeared as mere followers of Hahnemann, but placed themselves above him, looked down on him with a sneer, and continued to approximate still more closely to the old school by catching at specifics.

With respect to diet, it was considered strange that a well-informed public could bring themselves to conform to the dietetic rules, as laid down by Hahnemann. These persons wished to make themselves agreeable to the

patients, and relaxed by little and little, and by such conduct rendered themselves great favorites with Hahnemann's opponents. Accordingly generalisations were now indulged in at the bed-side of the patient, and the strict rules of Hahnemann's dietetics were set aside. And what was the consequence? The small Homœopathic doses could no longer afford aid.

Practitioners now began to give larger doses; these same doses now were repeated more frequently; remedies came to be rapidly alternated, and even mixed together; and Allopathic medicines began on some occasions to be introduced among the others. That which Hahnemann had said,—“Imitate, but imitate strictly and honestly,” was now altogether forgotten. There still were to be found some simple practitioners, who published accounts of successful cases, treated according to the directions laid down by Hahnemann, but the wisdom of those men who had raised themselves above Hahnemann would not tolerate the simply described cures with small doses, and that even without having recourse to repetitions. Much, to be sure, had been said as to how necessary it was to speak candidly and above-board, even though the words so said should not be pleasing to the founder of Homœopathy. But should others, after the specifics were selected, have dared to desire to perform cures with remedies from which 302 bottles were taken, and that too without the repetition of the doses? That was not to be tolerated. All these must now be brought to silence by thundering denunciations, by means of calumnies, and reproaches on their stupidity. And lo! the thing succeeded; whoever did not wish to quarrel, preferred to remain silent, and the public received from year to year less valuable cases of cures to read. The attained freedom consisted in this, that one party alone retained the privilege of speech, but the other remained silent, according to the proverb, “the most prudent is the first to be silent.”

The story is the same as in the political world. The radicals cried up the acquisition of a free press, and freedom of speech—but wo to the man who should speak there, and utter a word there, save what meets their approbation. We are digressing however. Now what was the result of that attainment to Homœopathy and its improvement? Together with a mass of theoretical disputes, there was so much contention regarding the doses; one would employ only the bottles with



the lower numbers, another with the higher ; one called them dilutions, another developments or potencies, and at length there came in addition to this the high potencies, which must all supplant other doses. But if we look about us for good cures, we find as many of them after one mode of preparing the medicines, as after the other, provided only these correspond Homœopathically. There is probably no Homœopathic practitioner who has not completed just as good cures by means of the original tincture, as through the high potencies, and all the intermediate preparations. But if we ask conscientiously, can you tell me in what cases, according to incontrovertible practical grounds, must this or that number of the large scale be given, in order to be most certain as to the result ? I fear very much many a one will remain without returning a definite and decisive answer. And yet we must succeed at one time or other. The intention was formed to propose this problem to the societies. Accordingly central and provincial societies were formed, especially after the time of the great jubilee of our Hahnemann in Cöthen. What, however, have these societies done up to the present time ? I know of nothing. They enjoyed the meetings, consumed much time in mere matters of form ; some treatises were listened to. They ate, they drank, and returned home just as empty as they had gone, unless perhaps they found time on their return to enter into closer conversation with their colleagues separately on various practical subjects. Were Homœopathic practitioners to solve the riddle ? such perhaps was expected. But I have not found any solved by them. They may perhaps serve for this purpose, to enable those students who, amid the host of theories, may still have found opportunity to make themselves acquainted with the so much depreciated Homœopathy, to enable them, I say, to be brought nearer to it at the sick-bed. Therapeutic manuals are indispensable for all beginners in the art ; they give us moreover numberless indications and hints, but they give us only the desirable information from the experience of an individual. But that is not enough. We must become acquainted with the experience of the greatest possible number of practitioners, in order, from that, to be able to draw results. Extended observation is here of the utmost importance. And how are we to attain that ? By good histories of cases, especially such wherein a

medicine cured what was curable ; or if several were required, where in every one a new picture of the disease now presented itself. Pages full of cures of the most dangerous diseases are no help to us, where in the use of several medicines prescribed with special indications, such a one became convalescent. They show, perhaps, what can be done in the Homœopathic way, but are by no means instructive. Whilst on this subject we cannot help observing that the brief narration of an unimportant case of disease where medicines, with correctly noticed signs indicating them, effected a cure, is of more value than the longest case with superficial indications. But large masses of cures of old forms of diseases from the most varied observers, under varying circumstances, and with various doses of medicine and repetitions, lead to the conclusion that we stand in need of, to perfect to a still more positive certainty at the sick-bed our art in opposition to Allopathy.

If then after a half or an entire decennium the observations lying scattered, be collected and arranged, we become enabled to learn from them—

1st. In what forms of disease our art effected most up to the present moment, and under what particular circumstances.

2d. In what forms gaps and lacunæ are still found ; for where the heart is full, the mouth overflows ; accordingly we find but few cases enumerated where the cure is attended with difficulty ; hence we become aroused to trace out the causes why in particular cases treatment seldom succeeds.

3d. We become more accurately acquainted with medicines by this means, viz., by seeing what they have cured, and find new confirmations of the signs found on the healthy in the proving.

4th. We have hit upon the way of becoming constantly better instructed on the doctrine of doses, and of gradually removing all the darkness which still exists on the subject.

But not only do we ourselves learn much by following in this path, but we are able to show to our opponents what Homœopathy has done up to the present period, by proofs, which they cannot continue eternally to deny, if they will only believe us. And if they do not, how can that injure us ? We sow the seeds. If it fall on bad land, it is trampled down ; but many a grain still falls on a good field, and yields abundant fruits, and we have done our duty. My bro-

ther, ten years ago, commenced to collect an account of all the cures performed according to the principles of Homœopathy that were known up to the time. By being used judiciously, the book has certainly afforded to many useful advice in difficult cases, notwithstanding all its imperfections. But even with the last decennium, the mass of published cures and experience has gradually increased, in spite of the intimidation held out by litigious and quarrelsome practitioners.—Satisfied of the necessity of a complete compilation of all the cases hitherto published, drawn up as much as possible with a view to practical purposes, I have occupied myself for a considerable time in compiling some preliminary papers connected with the subject for my own private use, but have been repeatedly called on by my colleagues to publish the work. Though I am convinced of the difficulty attending the proper execution of the task, as well as of my own humble powers to go through it, still I intend to continue the work, and hope to be able in a short time to put the book into the hands of the profession. However, notwithstanding what I myself may be able to do in this matter, I feel thoroughly convinced what a dearth of successful cases of cure in our medical literature, and how incumbent it is on Homœopathic practitioners to exert themselves in the field, and to make communications from the rich treasure of their experience, this being the only way. The old proverb so frequently quoted in early times holds good here—

Concordiâ res parvæ crescunt.

TH. T. RUCKERT, *Hom. Phys.*

Herrnhut, Feb. 22, 1849.

(From the *Allgemeine Homœopathische Zeitung*, July, 1849.)

#### DEVOTION TO A CAUSE.

THE notable spirit of self-sacrifice and self-denial for any cause, has been always more remarkable in the ruder, than in the more polished states of society. The heroes who lived in the period preceding what is called civilization, in Greece and Italy, were of Titanic moral stature in comparison with the remarkable spirits of more polite times.

It is while a nation is in transition from barbarism to civilization, that these hero-spirits are more abundantly thrown up. Such persons were demigods, while yet the old superstition was in existence; but when the Sun of Revelation rose and dispelled the mists of super-

stition, they were ranked only as traditional heroes.

Of the rank, in public opinion, of those who dedicated themselves to healing the diseases of their fellow creatures, in those rude and vigorous ages, there can be no mistake; for Esculapius, and others of the healing class, were deified, some among the higher, and some among the lower gods of Olympus. The superstition has passed away, and with it the enthusiasm. How sad that men should confound the noble spirit of unhesitating faith in any doctrine and practice with the self-seeking worldly spirit of the mere pretender.

The polish of civilization is accompanied by the taint of corruption. It has ever been so. Earnestness of purpose is blunted; true enthusiasm, in the classical sense, is nowhere to be found, and a spurious imitation of it is exhibited in its place.

But spirits of that finer organization which is the characteristic of genius, are ever and anon thrown up in civilized nations, to be their teachers, and seers, and reformers, if there be public virtue enough left to appreciate them. In truth, though it be unacknowledged truth to the mass, the world is evermore under the unsleeping governance of its Divine Architect.

That mankind should be happy, and be as much free as is compatible with their fallen condition, from physical and psychical deterioration and moral degradation, is evidently the benevolent design of the Creator. But being endowed with reason, His rational creatures are to use their reason, and to help themselves. As in the fable of Hercules and the wagoner, the human pilgrim must put his shoulder to the wheel, or he cannot expect to get it out of the rut.

*Worthies* have not been wanting in the healing art any more than in any other department of civil life. For patient study, calm endurance, sympathy with suffering, and earnest desire to relieve that suffering, human history can present few names more worthy of record, than those of Haller, Boerhaave, Sydenham, Harvey, Jenner, and many others of the medical profession.

The self-devotion of the medical class has, indeed, been remarkable at all times. They shrink not from infection, they run not from danger. The priests and the medical men were alike decimated in the late famine fever of Ireland. But while we gladly acknowledge their moral courage in trial and trouble, in difficulty and doubt, in comparative want and amid various temptations, in the face of plague and pestilence, they are, as a class, little subject to the influences of the finer organization of the pre-eminent geniuses that, ever and anon, distinguish their ranks.

Their busy round of daily occupation—their preoccupied thoughts—their jaded frames—their preconceived notions—the early-imbibed doctrines of their schools and colleges—their habits and prejudices—are so many hindrances



to their taking up any great reform. The many are led by the few, and so a generation at least, generally passes before any real reform is fairly adopted by them. The propagation of great truths is not the matter of a day.

But even when such a reform has been partially adopted, even by a small body, it is not embraced with ardor and prosecuted with that vigor which are due to the cause. Each in his own circle,—such is poor human nature,—looks to his own personal or class-interests. No large views are entertained; the duty of being an active minister of such a reform, is to most, simply the duty of doing the best they can for their patients and themselves. All men cannot be heroes or Hahnemanns, but still some portion of the heroic spirit—of the Hahnemannian influence—should be diffused through all.

The listlessness and the apathy which cannot be roused into a vigorous co-operation with those who are eager to diffuse truth, and communicate healing to the nations, must be stimulated.

The medical men of any civilized nation, from their education and their attainments, from their social position and their very office, might be among the most influential for good in their generation and country. But we see that in this country they have not yet been able to bring about even a small reform in their own corporate abuses; that they have no voice in the legislature, no influence in the councils of the nation.

If this be true of that extrinsic and comparatively indifferent reform in the composition of their schools and colleges, in privileges and titular distinctions, how much more true is it of that intrinsic and vital reform, which has for its object a change in the whole system of therapeutics, and for its aim an immense improvement in the physical condition of mankind?

The Hahnemannian doctrine is such a reform. Insult and contumely, ignorance and presumption, have characterized its opponents. Few in this country have dared to investigate it: few have dared to adopt it; and when they have adopted it, few dare to advocate and aid in its development and furtherance, as they should do. "It is good to be zealously affected in a good cause." All who profess Homœopathy profess to believe it is a good cause, but few act as if they thought it needful or expedient to be zealously affected in its behalf, out of the very small circle of their routine life. It is mere blindness not to see that the diffusion of the knowledge of what one professes is for his own advantage; mere selfishness not to regard the whole family of man as of far more importance than the success of an individual, even if that success should be jeopardized—but it never is.

We should be very glad to kindle some of that spirit which animated Cavaliers and Roundheads in the war that was for the liberty of Englishmen, each of these classes was

contending earnestly, though not Christianly, for a principle. It is this that makes Charles a martyr, notwithstanding his faults, and elevates Cromwell to the rank of a hero, notwithstanding he was accessory to the judicial murder of the king. Hampden, Sidney, and Russell, lived not, and died not in vain. If the self-devoting struggles of leaders and people—as in Hungary now—are for the liberty of after ages, if the blood of martyrs has been the seed of the Church,—in the sight of our ineffable Taskmaster, "in Whom we live, and move, and have our being," not without price and without reward are the virtuous endeavor, the patient self-denial, the strenuous effort after good, the well-meant intention, and the disinterested purpose, even of those unpretending ones who quietly pursue "the noiseless tenor of their way."

We advocate the noblest cause of all, save one, that has ever been proposed to man. After the health of the soul, the health of body and mind is the most important subject in the world to any rational being. We are stirred with a warmth, akin to indignation, at any apparent lukewarmness of those who are by profession its advocates, and in the real working out of it are—drones. In our hive we want working bees. We desire all and each of those who profess Homœopathy, according to the faculties, opportunities, and position of each, doing something for the cause. The folding of the hands, the sleepiness, and the craving for a little more sleep,—the attributes of the sluggard, the petty instincts of the mere worldly self-seeker, are not for us, or the occasion. Let not the lamentation of the saint in his higher calling, be the necessary confession of the conscientious Homœopathist, "Heu mihi! quam sero venio! Heu! heu! quam tarde festino!" Let every man be up and be doing! We will not tolerate sluggards or malingerers.

It is true that we can only expect, in the case of higher intelligences, that their fine organization shall give proof of its metal, by showing that whenever one light is extinguished, one exploit is ended, another light is at once kindled, another virtuous endeavor is immediately put into action: but we demand and insist on a lively sympathy and an active co-operation of all those who call themselves Homœopathists.

We have reason to be thankful and are grateful for the amount of public favor already received, and confidently expect it will increase from week to week, month to month, and year to year. As the Queen said of Perth the other day, "I have no fear for Perth; Perth will do what is right." So we can say we have no fear for the public; if we do our duty fittingly as advocates of our noble cause, the Homœopathic public will assuredly support us.

But we have a right to the countenance and co-operation of our medical colleagues. We trust they will all assist us, in some way or



other, in our onerous duties. All must have some important matter to communicate, all can aid, in their different circles, in promoting the circulation of our journal. It is assuredly the duty of all medical practitioners to advance the knowledge, and promote the development of Homœopathy to as great an extent as possible. It is no less their interest than their duty; for it is a matter of common sense that the wider is the diffusion of our doctrine, the greater will be the demand for the practitioner.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating," as the homely proverb says. The proof of the kindly countenance of our colleagues would be soon made manifest to us. Up to this time the interest in our undertaking, on the part of those colleagues, has not been in proportion to the public favor accorded us, nor yet to their own position as Homœopathic practitioners, nor to the intrinsic value of our cause.

There are, however, some meritorious and noble exceptions to this indifference or lukewarmness. We would have all our colleagues active in sympathy, and energetic in action. The diviner enthusiasm, which is so different in its quality from the spurious, is what we wish to see among our practitioners. Talents are good gifts, and acquirements are good; and talents and acquirements together are better still, when presented in union; but neither talents nor acquirements, nor both together, avail much a cause in progress, except there be added to them some portion of the enthusiasm we speak of.

Tully, the Roman, said, that "in no other thing do mortals approach so nearly to the nature of higher beings, as in communicating health and healing to their fellows." "In nullâ re homines propius accedunt ad deos quam dando salutem hominibus." All who believe that Homœopathy is the best mode of so benefitting mankind, and honestly believe themselves to be fitting stewards of this doctrine and practice, should energize themselves to the right discharge of their stewardship. Each of them should endeavor, at least, to come up to the mark.

As we are still few in these kingdoms, we should be compact, energetic, and unwearied in our efforts. We mean no offence; on the contrary it is with perfect good-will, and with the hope that our remarks will be taken in good part, that we call the attention of all our readers and especially of our medical Homœopaths, to the necessity of earnest devotion to our cause.—*Homœopathic Times*.

#### MEDICAL EDUCATION.

We cut the following from the New-York Daily Tribune:

MEDICAL EDUCATION.—At a meeting of *The Homœopathic Society of New-York*, held Feb. 2, 1850, Dr. JOSLIN offered, Dr. BAYARD seconded, and the Society adopted, the follow-

ing Preamble and Resolution; which on motion of Dr. J. BOWERS, seconded by Dr. CATON, was ordered to be published:

*Whereas*, An association of physicians, styled the "Hahnemann Academy of Medicine," have signified their intention to petition the Legislature of this State to grant to said Academy or its nominees the power to examine candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine—a collegiate honor which should be dispensed only by Universities and Colleges; and *whereas* the Constitution of said Academy virtually forbids the appointment of any corps of Medical Professors for the instruction of students; and *whereas* the Academy are circulating a Petition in which they allege that there is no "guarantee provided for the citizens" of this State "that those professing to practise" our system "are possessed of the requisite knowledge," although the Homœopathic examinations by the existing American Institute of Homœopathy do afford a guarantee equal, perhaps, to any that would be afforded by the "Academy;" and *whereas* the fact that "the system of Homœopathy is not taught in any institution for medical instruction in this State" is, in said "Petition" alleged as one of the reasons for "the establishment of a Board of Examiners," instead of its being alleged (as in our opinion it should be) as a reason for establishing a regular Homœopathic College:

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of the members of the Homœopathic Society of New-York, a provision for the thorough, regular and systematic instruction of Homœopathic students, is no less needed than a provision for their examination; and that we will cheerfully co-operate with members of the Academy, and Homœopathic physicians throughout the State, in efforts to procure the establishment of a New-York Homœopathic College, having the usual regular form, with Professorships in all branches of medical science, and the power to confer the degree of Doctor of Medicine; but that we will not petition for the establishment of any mere diploma monopoly, or any eclectic "Board of Examination," which shall "require of its candidates a full knowledge of the various and opposing modes of practice in Allopathy," and only "an equally intimate acquaintance with the theory and practice of Homœopathy," and shall be "commanded by law to examine the candidate in all the existing methods of practice," without making any special or efficient provisions for his education in that method of practice which we deem eminently true and important.

CLARK WRIGHT, M. D., Chairman.

B. F. BOWERS, M. D., Secretary.

N. B. The quotations are from the Petition of the Academy and the Inaugural Address of its President.

The following members of the Homœopathic Society of New-York, have signified their approbation of the above Preamble and Resolution, viz.:

J. H. ALLEN, M. D.; EDWARD BAYARD, M. D.; B. F. BOWERS, M. D.; J. BOWERS, M. D.; H. HULL CATON, M. D.; B. F. JOSLIN, M. D.; JOHN TAYLOR, M. D.; and CLARK WRIGHT, M. D.

We should not have noticed at all the above effusion of disappointed ambition and personal pique, did we not think it proper to set our



readers right as to the weight they ought to give it, and the authority that should attach to the quarter whence it comes.

It purports to be a resolution adopted "*at a meeting of the Homœopathic Society of New-York.*" That Society is a private club of physicians formed in November, 1846, and then consisted of *fifteen members*, of whom two are since dead, one has virtually retired from the profession, one has left the city of New-York, and six have joined the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine. It is a Society which was never flourishing at best, and which has been, in the opinion of some of its members, virtually defunct for more than two years, it having never, during that time, held a meeting at which six members were present, to the best of our recollection. Its existence during that time has only been made known by occasional galvanic jumps on the part of its Recording Secretary, announcing in the public prints, proceedings of meetings of the Society at which, if the truth were known, himself, a member to make and one to put a motion, have been the only attendants. This would be simply ludicrous if it were not wickedly attempting to palm off upon those ignorant in the matter, the opinions of one or two restless men as the deliberate judgment of an association of physicians, adopted after mature discussion.

The meeting at which the above "proceedings" were had was of a similar character. The resolution introduced by Dr. Joslin actually received *four votes* including that of the mover, which was sufficient to authorize the presiding officer to declare it "*carried*," there being only two other members present at the time beside himself, and those two being members of the Academy.

But enough of such sham "proceedings." Let us look at the clumsily drawn preamble and resolution. The preamble contains *four whereas-es*, to the following effect. 1. That the degree of Doctor of Medicine should be dispensed only by Universities and Colleges. 2. That the Academy does not appoint professors. 3. That the examinations of the American Institute *do* afford a guarantee "*equal, perhaps*," &c. 4. That there should be a College instead of a Board of Examiners.

We are not about to enter into a labored defence of the opinions or action of the Academy. We have neither time nor space to do so; it is enough to say that they meet our cordial

approbation and hearty concurrence, and that they are fast recommending themselves, as we have reason to know, to the enlightened judgment of the professional and popular mind. We only propose to extricate from the entanglement of words the true spirit and meaning, if any, of the document which stands at the head of our article, and set them in their true light, when, if we mistake not, they will have their due weight with every reflecting man.

The first, second and fourth objections to the plan proposed by the Academy may be classed together. They amount to this, that the plan proposed is not, as the mover of the resolution expressed it, that *time-honored* institution—a College. He would like, doubtless, to see the *time-honored* doctrines of Allopathy taught in it also. But there are to be no professors! Ah! there's the rub! *Hinc illa lachrymæ!* Stupidity in a gown and tediousness in an arm-chair are no longer to have an exclusive right to be honored as "professors," and to exact from students the money and devotion that would willingly be paid to a capable teacher! The student is to be allowed the right to select the *best instructor*, and privileged dulness must yield to recognized merit! This is, indeed, a serious charge, but those who make it should beware, lest in so doing they be suspected, however unjustly, of a desire for personal aggrandizement accompanied by a consciousness of personal incapacity.

But it is feebly asserted in the third objection that the examinations of the American Institute afford a guarantee equal, *perhaps*, to any that would be furnished by the Academy, of the capability of Homœopathic physicians. It would be a sufficient reply to say that *perhaps* they are not; but however feebly it might have been asserted, it would have been too strong for the truth; for it is well known to the profession that those examinations have always been of the most nominal character. And in addition to this, they are expressly limited by the by-laws of the Institute, to such persons desiring to become members as have "*pursued a regular course of medical studies according to the requirements of the existing medical institutions of our country*," that is, to regularly graduated physicians who desire to join that body.

But let us come to the resolution of the four gentlemen who passed it, and of the four others who, it seems, have since endorsed it.

Here we have two points expanded into a vast quantity of words: 1. The ever-recurring objection already sufficiently considered, that there is to be no College having the usual (time-honored) "regular form, *with Professorships in all branches of medical science*," and 2. That the Academy proposes to require of the candidates for its honors a knowledge of all the prevailing systems of medicine.

An Academy that proposed otherwise would be deserving of most persevering opposition as one faithless to the demands of science, and traitorous to the interests of the sick; and we regret to be obliged to number in the Homœopathic ranks eight physicians who consider a one-sided, partial and very limited acquaintance with the science of medicine as it exists in the world at the present day, as all-sufficient for the equipment of a thoroughly-educated scientific practitioner. Such is not and ought not to be the view of the Academy. They desire that the Homœopathic physician should be acquainted with the follies of the old system, that he may learn to appreciate the beauty and wisdom of his own; that he may know how to meet and remedy the evils consequent upon a practice without a guide, and that he may be able to convince others of the advantages of the Homœopathic art over its antagonist. They require him to be familiar with all the resources of art and science, that he may bring all to bear upon the advancement and perfection of a system now cradled, but destined, ere long, to attain a mature and vigorous manhood that shall rule the world.

A word more to these gentlemen. While we are happy to believe that there are some among them who have suffered the convictions of their own consciences in relation to the right of this matter, to be stifled for a season by the interested solicitations of private friendship, we cannot but again express our regret, that there should be found, even three or four among us, who are opposed to the progress of salutary reform in medicine, and to the requirement of a high standard of knowledge from the aspirant to its trusts. With the individual opinions, however, of these gentlemen, we have nothing to do; we are most happy to see the question of reform agitated, and let the motives of its opponents be what they may, nothing but good can result from it; but we warn them, in an appropriate if not a very savory figure, that if the fermentation of disappointed ambition, mortified pride, and per-

sonal spleen shall, at any time, bloat their private notions into the form of the deliberate opinions of a Society of Homœopathic physicians, we shall feel ourselves not only at liberty, but compelled, from a sense of duty, to the disagreeable office of thrusting in our scalpel and reducing the apparent monster to its original and true proportions.

*The Duty of the State in relation to Homœopathy; an Inaugural Address, delivered before the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine.* By JOHN F. GRAY, M. D., President.

The above address has appeared in a neat pamphlet form of 28 pages, from the press of Angell & Engel. Although in our January issue we published most of the address, still it may be useful to direct particular attention to an important point, especially so, as it has been attacked by a few of our own household, who in this respect have taken sides with the conservative party of the Allopathic school, which in that school is made up mostly of the professors of the numerous medical colleges of this country. And as that party monopolize by law the business of teaching, it cannot be expected that it would yield its lucrative occupation without a struggle, and in its efforts we are not surprised that some of our own friends should be influenced by its wily contrivances. On page 20, Dr. Gray says:

"There should be no coercion on the part of the State in the matter of medical doctrines, for very obvious reasons; but the State should undertake to aid in the advancement of Medical Science by measures which shall permit the conflict of opinions among the members of the profession to take place in the presence of the learners of that science—it should open a fair field and show no favor to any combatant in the lists.

Such is not now the case. Nowhere in the State is there room for a chair of Homœopathy, nor is there room in any Board of Examiners for the presence of a Homœopathic physician.

Our system is not only not taught to candidates of medicine and surgery, but their ears are filled to stunning with denials of its truth, and with entreaties and warnings not to examine nor test its pretensions. We contend that they should have a chance to hear the other side, an opportunity to judge for themselves, before going to the difficult and but too often dangerous task of their lives. As the case now stands, there is a kind of coercion of conformity with the Old School, sustained by the State, which ought to be abolished. A



Board of Examination should be created, which should be empowered, nay, commanded by law to examine the candidate in all the existing methods of practice.

The relation of the government towards the sick, is not justly that of a chooser of his physician—a judge of the values of discordant modes of practice—but it is that of an efficient witness that the men who bear its licenses are learned, in the Art of Healing; that they know the structure and functions of the human body, the forms and powers of medicines, and that they are well acquainted with all the various theories and practical results of their learned and skilful predecessors in the art.

It is to our mind so self-evident, that this constitutes the whole duty of the State in the matter of Medical Science, that we would not, if we could gain our petition, ask for powers which should enable us to exact conformity with our theory and practice, although we consider them of the utmost importance to the true honor, happiness and usefulness of the members of the medical profession, and of inestimable value to the sick and dying. We hold that a forced conformity is as tyrannical and inexpedient in medicine as it is in theology, and that its fruits would be as injurious to personal progress in our art as they are in the other to personal purity in morals.

To render the principles of any art operative in another, we must so convey them to him as that in perfect freedom he sees the truth, and by a process of his own adapts them to his rational faculty, so that they become as much his property as if he had discovered them himself. It is thus, and only thus, that a pupil can be made a master; he must learn the principles so thoroughly, digest them so perfectly, that, under the affinities of his moral and intellectual life, they become assimilated to and a component part of his very being. A forced or external assent to principles which he has not so appropriated, fills his mind with vague fancies which fatigue and perplex him, even to the loathing of all research; and it takes away from him the sense of capacity to perform, from himself, real exercises of skill in his art or profession; it paralyzes alike his love of the objects of his art and his power of accomplishing them."

As things now are in the medical colleges, the diploma is diminishing in value, and the time is near at hand when the intelligent portion of the people will regard it but feeble evidence of learning. Two things will save it from such a disgrace: 1st, Competition in teaching, and 2dly, A rigid examination of candidates for the degree of Doctor in Medicine by competent persons, and a complete record in writing of such examination, signed by the examiners with their assent or dissent, and such record subject to the inspection of any member of the profession.

The present mode of appointing teachers affords no security to the people that the best talent is selected, for it is notorious that a moneyed, or a political, or a family influence controls, in most instances, the appointments to professorships. There is talent, learning and skill for teaching, concealed in modesty and poverty which only requires the stimulus of competition for their full development; and the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine has immortalized herself by the adoption of this principle. As in the Christian religion, so in medicine, "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

### ALLOPATHY A MONOPOLY IN THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

The following article appeared as a leader in "The New-York Sun" of 18th ultimo. It clearly and forcibly expresses the truthful doctrine of the day, and it needs no prophet to foresee that the head of Allopathy with its self-esteem so enormous that it bends backwards, must soon bow down to the progress of anti-monopoly. The people have experienced the benefit of competition in other things, and they now demand it in medicine.

"In his late Message, Governor Fish suggested that *"the time had arrived when the State was called to aid more efficiently, the cause of medical education."* We inferred, and still infer, that he meant the time had arrived not to endow more richly, certain exclusive institutions, monopolized by a conceited and arrogant class of the medical profession, who, resisting the intelligence of the age, and the progress of medical science, have attempted to smother all opinions and practice not in accordance with stereotyped formulas, but to break down this hedge of legal privileges, and state nursing, by which medical science is denied the benefits of competition, and kept centuries in the rear of all other sciences.

"The ignorance and abuse of medical science, by a large class of its privileged professors, is one of the greatest evils and curses of our age. Every household, every community, suffers from it, not so fully indeed as if the terrible mal-practices were manifest as they soon would be if the state should withdraw its legalization of murder, though the curse, in spite of all attempts to strangle suspicion and objection, is palpable enough to create general and indignant complaint. The cry of all classes in regard to medical practice, is reform. The people ask that the healing art, so called, may like other arts, have the advantages of discovery and invention, from whatever source they may come. They com-



plain that the State does a foul wrong in endowing a class of a profession, thus setting them up as a standard, proclaiming their superiority, if not infallibility, and defending them and their doctrines against the intelligence, experience, and conviction of the age.

"It is notorious that medical science has made no advance, corresponding with the progress of other sciences. It stands where it stood a century ago, with the exception of slight innovations, every one of which has been battled to the death by the law-privileged faculties. The only reason to be given for this fact, is that the privileging of any class of a profession, makes that class conceited, proud, and intolerant of its opinions, and causes them to resist light even against their convictions. And why? Because every change of creed, or formula, is a proof that the class is not infallible, and they cling to error and mal-practice rather than give the world cause to doubt their infallibility. The case to-day with the privileged medical faculty, surrounded by its powerful State institutions, and backed by its printed and stereotyped doctrines, is the same as centuries ago, when Le Sage drew his portrait of the faculty, in Dr. Sangrado. The Dr. acknowledged to his doubtful disciple, Gil Blas, that his indiscriminate warm water and blood-letting practice killed all his patients; but said he, *"I have defended the practice in a book; if I forsake the one, I must forsake the other, and who will have faith in another practice or book if I quit these."* Here is the secret of the stand still of medical science.

"What the people and the age demand, to advance medical science is the abolition of all preferences on the part of the State, for any class of the medical profession. It is the systems of practice that want reforming, and all the education in the world cannot remedy the evil complained of, while the State sets up a standard of medical treatment. There is plenty of education in our Medical Colleges and Hospitals, but defended or supported by the State, it is all bent to perpetuate old opinions and practices. We had a specimen of this during the epidemic. A Medical Council to the Board of Health, composed of a State privileged faculty, closed our Hospitals to the slightest innovation upon their system of medical treatment. No matter though Homœopathy, Hydropathy, Chrono-Thermalism, or Thompsonianism, demonstrated that they killed ten or fifty per cent. less than Allopathy, the latter was backed by the State, and insolent in its power, shut out from the public institutions every treatment but its own.

To our mind, the State has no right to be invidious, and say that this, more than another class of a great profession, is the regular and commendable one. If the State patronize Medical Science at all, it should embrace the whole medical profession, without regard to systems of practice. Let each class have equal privileges in State institutions and State

bounties, and let the people's experience of their several practices, determine which shall stand highest. Make the privileges equal, and each class will be thrown upon its good behavior—upon an ambition really to excel in practice. We do not hold, however, that the State should endow the medical profession at all. Let all privileges and restrictions be alike taken away, and let the doctors compete through their actual merits for the reward which the people will fully and richly pay for the best medical practice. There must be some public institutions, such as hospitals and infirmaries, let these be thrown open equally to the whole profession. If the different classes of the profession want colleges, let them create them, and support them as sectarian institutions are supported. Christianity is upheld by the State, but the State does not select a denomination of Christians for its special patronage. Let medical science be regarded in a similar light. Let the State encourage it, but only as a general principle, leaving its sects to battle for their own peculiar doctrines."

#### NOTICE.

Two more numbers will complete the 4th volume of this Journal. We are not of those who bestow fulsome praise on subscribers. They have been furnished with the best efforts of our mind, both in original and selected matter, and we believe each subscriber will have received his dollar's worth. The American Journal of Homœopathy, from its commencement, has relied upon its merits for the approbation of the profession and of the public. It is not nor never shall be, while in our hands, the organ of a clique or party; its object is to seek and propagate a true healing art. Therefore if its merits will not command the co-operation of the profession then let it cease to exist; but thus far it has been sustained, and numerous orders have come in lately for entire sets; and such is the zeal of a few kind friends they have sent us the money for the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th volumes; we wish those who owe us for the 1st, 2d and 3d volumes would have zeal enough to remit what is due. These delinquent friends of ours perhaps ought not to be blamed, for occasionally one writes that he has been so fully occupied in professional duties that he has not had the time to enclose a dollar in a letter, but he cannot do without the Journal, and if it is continued he will try to find time to send the money.

Under the conviction that no periodical is better adapted to spread a knowledge of Homœopathy, we do hope our colleagues all over these United States will consider that their in-



terest is involved in extending the circulation of this Journal as much as possible. It is our desire to enlarge it to twenty-four pages for the same price, for we begin to be so overrun with matter that an enlarged outlet is much needed. The present subscription list will not warrant this improvement, and we do not intend to undertake what we cannot safely accomplish, but if every Homœopathic physician will subscribe and do what he can to secure his lay friends who take an interest in our science, and will do this without delay, the first number of the fifth volume shall appear on the 1st of May next with twenty-four pages.

The Homœopathic school is engaged in an important reform; the opposition is strong and violent, and we take leave to say, that every member of the school is in duty bound to exert himself in all suitable ways to remove the popular errors of the people on the subject of medicine, and also to induce as many physicians as possible to study Homœopathia. Therefore, as one of the means to accomplish this end, circulate cheap publications; a few dollars expended in this way yearly by each one of us, would not only be a public benefit but be promotive of private interests.

#### THE NEW-YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE AND ITS ANNUAL ORATION.

THE anniversary oration by Dr. A. C. Post, before the New-York Academy of Medicine has been published, and a friend of ours has sent us (not the author) a copy of it. For years we have had a high respect for the learning and talents of Dr. Post, although we could not claim an intimate acquaintance with him, nor have we been at any time in a position to be able, for ourselves, to form a just opinion of his natural or acquired abilities. This oration, we believe, is the first effort of Dr. P. as a popular lecturer, and we must say that it is anything but creditable to his head or to his heart. We shall not attempt a review in the usual mode, but only state, that the lecture has seventy octavo pages, thirty-three of which is devoted to the Cholera; the prominent point of which is, a sort of an apology for the fatality of that disease in the hands of Allopathists. This branch of the oration is fallacious, as every intelligent reader will admit. Forty pages are devoted to quackery; twenty-three of which treats of Homœopathy.

This last branch of the oration is the most remarkable of its kind we remember ever to have read. In eight propositions, Dr. P. undertakes to present a clear view of Hahnemann's system. Some of these are fairly stated, and others not so. This is the usual custom of Allopathists. Why did not Dr. P. give the language of the Organon for his eight propositions? If he had done so, he could not have been accused of misrepresentation.

In all those points in Homœopathy which are fairly stated, Dr. P. actually admits them to be true, only in his opinion they are general laws but not universal as the Homœopaths claim. This reminds us of a person we once met, who pretended to learning in theology, who said he "believed in a general providence of the Creator but not in a particular one." The error of this man was the same as that of Dr. Post. They both forget that in matters of that sort, what they admit, necessarily includes what they pretend to reject.

On the Homœopathic law of *similarity*, Dr. P. makes the usual blunder of those of his school. He talks of *similarity*, but blends it with *identity*, "Before the time of Hahnemann," he says, "the Homœopathic doctrine was well expressed in the old ditties:"

"Tobacco hic, tobacco hic,  
When you are well will make you sick;  
Tobacco hic, as I've heard tell,  
When you are sick, will make you well."

"There was a man of Thessaly,  
He was so wondrous wise,  
He jumped into a bramble bush,  
And scratched out both his eyes.

"And when he found his eyes were out,  
With all his might and main  
He jumped into another bush,  
And scratched them in again."

This poetry, quoted by Dr. P., is his strongest point, if his remarks can be said to have a point at all, that he urges against Hahnemann's system. He and the Academy are welcome to its force against Homœopathy. We place it in our columns that they may have the benefit of a much wider circulation than the oration itself.

We do not incline to use severe language towards Dr. Post on account of his oration, although every unprejudiced reader will regard it a futile production. But it should be borne in mind, that Dr. P. was the organ of a party, a narrow-minded, illiberal, haughty, self-seeking party; organized, and virtually sworn to put down Homœopathy and Homœopaths, *vi et armis*, or cover themselves all over with

that glory which results from death in a pertinacious opposition to truth. Having humane feelings, we do regret, that the Academy annually finds some one to sum up its dirty work of the year in what is pompously styled an oration. There is, however, a cheering thought, what it thus does hurts but itself.

#### NEWSPAPER "PUFFS" OF MEDICAL MEN.

The proprietors of the Sunday Times and Noah's Weekly Messenger, must be unusually liberal if they gratuitously allowed a column or more of their paper for the last month, to be appropriated to "puffs" of Dr. Mott. Is it possible that this old Professor finds it necessary to resort to such means to "bring grists to his mill?" However, the example of the New-York Academy, and the professors of our colleges generally, will very soon induce the members of the profession to feel that the disgrace which heretofore attached to an advertising doctor, no longer exists. We cannot sanction an indirect mode of advertising; it should be done directly, in the true mercantile fashion. From an intimation in Dr. Post's oration, it is probable that some graduates may find it inconvenient to write a suitable advertisement for themselves, we therefore furnish a model which they may use without giving us credit for it. "Doct. — takes great pleasure in informing his friends and the public generally, that he has just returned from Europe, and is now prepared to treat all manner of diseases on the most approved methods of the European schools. Female complaints have received his special attention under the most celebrated teachers of Paris. Vaginal specula of all sizes always on hand. Fees to suit the times."

#### EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR.

A gentleman of New Orleans writes: "Homœopathy has had much to contend with in New Orleans, but it is becoming better known and stronger every month. The great success in treating the cholera and dysentery during the past year has convinced thousands of its superiority in diseases of the bowels."

Dr. N. Seymour, Erie, Pa., writes: "Allow me to say, that I like your Journal for the stand it has taken against the attempted amal-

gamation of the Homœopathic with the Eclectic school, as exemplified recently in Cincinnati. All western Homœopaths do not favor that measure."

Dr. F. R. McManus, of Baltimore, says: "I am very much pleased with the manner in which you conduct the Journal, and pleased to notice that you are about to have a medical school in New-York city."

Dr. I. A. Foote, of Hillsboro', Pa., writes: "Homœopathy is here, as elsewhere, flourishing gloriously. The American Journal of Homœopathy is too valuable to be without it; enclosed is the amount of subscription."

Dr. E. W. Mungur, of Waterville, N. Y., in a letter to Dr. Gray, under date of 25th ultimo, says: "I have received a blank petition to the Legislature, praying for the appointment of a board of examiners, &c. I approve most heartily of this plan. There are many physicians in the country who have adopted the Homœopathic practice, who are not known in New-York city, and who would feel an interest in this matter. I myself could dispose of six or seven petitions to such physicians of my acquaintance within fifteen miles of me, and wish you to send me that number if you can conveniently. In this part of the State we have the people with us."

Dr. Andrew M. L. Savage, of Argyle, Washington county, writes to Dr. Gray under date of 29th ult., and says: "On Friday last I received, through the Post Office, a Petition of the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine, to the Legislature for the establishment of a board of examiners in your city. I was very happy to receive it, as I am a true friend of this branch of medical science. I believe I have already one hundred names to the petition in this my native village; I have not, as yet, been out into the country with it, but hope by to-morrow evening to have an additional hundred."

Allow me to say further, that our system is fast gaining the ascendancy in old Washington county, notwithstanding the unceasing war that is made upon it by the old School on all sides.

Dr. VANDERBURGH lectured before the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine, on Wednesday evening, 16th ult., on Physiology.

Dr. KIRBY also lectured before the Academy on Friday evening, February 1st, on the



Popular objections to Homœopathia. These lectures were delivered in the Hope Chapel, Broadway. The audiences were attentive, intelligent and numerous. Homœopathy is progressing rapidly in this city. We were gratified to see a number of Allopathic physicians present at the lectures before the Academy, two of whom have expressed to us since, their disapproval of the intolerant spirit of their school towards Homœopathy and Homœopathists. Let the members of our school be true to its principles in the treatment of the sick, and the triumph of Homœopathy is certain. There should be no leaning to Allopathy—in fact, not the slightest imitation of her works of darkness to gratify friend or foe.

### THE FASHIONABLE DRUG.

Iodine and hydriodate of potash were, for several years, the fashionable drugs in the hands of Allopathists, and as employed by them, few if any cures were effected by their use; but on the contrary they occasioned, in many cases, serious mischief. These drugs have been very lately supplanted by *cod liver oil*, which is now prescribed in the name of science for almost all chronic diseases, although it is doubtful if any are cured by it; nevertheless, that Allopath who does not prescribe this fashionable preparation runs the risk of excommunication for irregularity.

The Hahnemann Academy of Medicine, at its last regular meeting, elected Drs. Quin, of London; Hering, of Philadelphia; Haynel, of Baltimore; and Stapf, of —; honorary members.

The following physicians were elected corresponding members, viz.: Drs. Moses Anderson, San Francisco, Ca.; Annin, Newark, N. J.; Belden, New Orleans; Lyman Clary, Syracuse, N. Y.; Perkins Cook, Hudson, N. Y.; Joseph Curtis, Danbury, Ct.; I. F. Flagg, Boston; A. Foote, New Haven, Ct.; James B. Gilbert, Savannah, Ga.; A. Hall, Po'keepsie, N. Y.; A. G. Hull, Newburgh, N. Y.; Jacob Jeans, Phila., Pa.; Darwin Jones, Albany, N. Y.; Lafon, Newark, N. J.; C. P. Leggett, Peekskill, N. Y.; A. Leon, New Orleans; Joseph L. Martin, Boston; F. R. McManus, Baltimore, Md.; C. Neidhard, Phila., Pa.; A. H. Okie, Providence, R. I.; H. D. Paine, Albany, N. Y.; J. H. Pulte,

Cincinnati, O.; J. R. Piper, Washington, D. C.; C. J. Roosevelt, Columbus, Ga.; Reisig, Berlin, Pruss.; John Shue, Hartford, Ct.; Skiff, New Haven, Ct.; Stansbury, San Francisco, Ca.; John T. Temple, St. Louis, Mo.; Wesselhæft, Boston, Mass.; W. Williamson, Phila., Pa.; Wild, Brookline, Mass.; Egbert Guernsey, Fishkill, N. Y.; Wm. A. Gardiner, Phila., Pa.; Alfred Gray, Buffalo, N. Y.; Samuel Gregg, Boston; Green, Washington, D. C.; Wm. S. Helmuth, Phila., Pa.; Lovejoy, Owego, N. Y.; E. A. Potter, Oswego, N. Y.; Robinson, Auburn, N. Y.

The resident members of the Academy are Drs. Ball, Barlow, Belcher, Bolles, Brown, Channing, Cox, C. M. Dake, Donovan, Dunnel, Durrie, Freeman, Gray, Green, Guy, Hallock, Hempel, Hall, Kinsley, Kirby, Mairs, McVickar, Metcalf, Moffatt, Munde, W. C. Palmer, M. W. Palmer, Quin, Rosman, Sherrill, Stewart, Sullivan, Vanderbergh, Ward, Warner, Wells, Wilsey, and Wilson.

### ADVERTISING DOCTORS.

The New-York Academy of Medicine (Allopathic) is out with an advertisement of the names of its members. The avowed object is, to let the people know who are the genuine doctors; the real object, however is, to advertise for business collectively, as it would not look well to do so individually. Of all the "*humbugs*" of this city, none will compare with this Academy. As an example of its intelligence, it occupied nearly three sessions in the discussion of the question—what constitutes a "*regular*" physician—without being able to agree on a definition. A few days ago, in conversation with one of its members, we asked him what he meant by a "*regular*" physician. He said "one who keeps right along; one who keeps on the old beaten track." We flattered his vanity by saying, that he and most of the members of the Academy were within that definition, we did not doubt.

South Western Homœopathic Journal remarks: "We believe that if Allopathic physicians are *agreed* on any *one subject*, it is in opposing truth. Facts make no more impression upon their mind, than the light of the sun upon a man born blind. They wrap themselves in self-conceit and ignorance, and thus shut out the glorious light of truth which is surrounding them."



## DR. MANLEY AND THE "LONDON MEDICAL GAZETTE" ARRAIGNED AND DISSECTED.

In the above Journal of August 10th, 1849, there appears in a sly and "telling" corner of one of its columns the following extract, entitled "A Summary of Homœopathy."

"It prescribes," says Dr. Manley, "for sensations, and not for symptoms, and the remedies are assorted according to the *sensations* which they produce; so that the *symptoms of the medicine*, and not the *symptoms of the disease*, guide the practitioners in their treatment. Of all the follies which have ever taken possession of a deluded public—not even excepting that of prescribing for patients without inquiring into the nature of their diseases—this pseudo-philosophy, called Homœopathy, is entitled to the palm. It sets at naught all the laws of nature; it claims that medicinal agents are remedial in an inverse proportion to the quantities exhibited—that is to say, that an ounce, a drachm, or a grain, being remedial, the ten thousandth, the millionth, the billionth, or decillionth part, is much more effective; so that the premises on which the system is founded being granted, all medicine consists in negation; for the doses prescribed are infinitely less than are exhibited day by day in our food and drink, for the sustenance of the human body in a state of health."—*Dr. Manley, in American Journal.*

We have transcribed the preceding extracts entire in order that our readers may clearly understand the grounds of our just criticism. It is indeed lamentable to think and to know that such erroneous notions as this extract displays, should be entertained and circulated by one of the leading Allopathic Journals upon the subject of Homœopathy. It demonstrates even at the very threshold of our labors, the necessity of our guardianship. The more painful does our task become, knowing, as we do, that the *London Medical Gazette* professes to be the main organ of the Allopathic heads!! of the medical profession in London. An established, accredited Journal, may be the vehicle of matter "for good" or "for evil," and believing that even our contemporary, although of an opposite faith, can have no other object in view than the dissemination of truth and science, calculated to augment the weal of the whole human race, our task of criticism and correction does not become the less invidious. Whatever may have been our private opinion of the good faith, honesty, and sincerity of some of our Allopathic Journals when reviewing the Homœopathic doctrines, we cannot believe that each and *all* were equally actuated by feelings and motives of the lowest order. Sincerity of belief we grant to our opponents, but an admission of their ignorance of the grand Homœopathic principle we at the same time claim from them.

We trust we shall have very little, if any, difficulty, in satisfying our readers upon this point. We have no wish to be considered intemperate or sarcastic in our remarks, while we are desirous of combating prejudices, and

advancing the knowledge of the rational treatment of disease, and we only wish that our opponents would understand the spirit by which we are actuated. The first law in criticism ought to be "mutual respect," and indulgence the "principle law of our conduct." It seems to us unpardonable—nay, criminal—that professional men of eminence, and leading journalists, should even to this hour be ignorant of the Homœopathic doctrine, and of Hahnemann's writings. We have the best reasons for knowing, that one of our leading Allopathic compilers, who is considered an authority upon all important questions in medicine, is still ignorant of what Hahnemann has done for medicine, beginning so far back as 1790, and continuing till his demise in 1843. Nevertheless, we cannot help expressing our surprise, that the *London Medical Gazette* should participate in such intellectual darkness. It becomes, however, our imperative duty to enter upon the task we have assigned to ourselves.

The statement of Dr. Manley argues one of two things, either that he is sadly ignorant of Hahnemann's writings, and therefore is it most unfit and presumptuous in him to enunciate a single opinion upon the Homœopathic doctrine, or that he has misrepresented the writings of Hahnemann, and therefore is not to be trusted. Whichever position either he or the *Medical Gazette* may choose (for we hold a journal that reprints even unconsciously a deviation from truth, no matter from what source, without comment, to be responsible and liable to criticism), we cannot envy either.

We shall have no trouble in showing both Dr. Manley and the editor of the *Medical Gazette*, that their "summary statements" concerning Homœopathy are most erroneous. Writers and journalists, ignorant of their subject, are in fact dangerous enemies to the advancement of truth and science; and having, as heretofore, detected them advancing and propagating serious blunders in medical literature inimical to the spread of Homœopathy, we shall consider it hereafter to be our bounden duty to watch all their movements most closely, and to deal with their "*statements*" according to their deserts.

Let us see how far Dr. Manley represents the truth when he says "Homœopathy prescribes for sensations and not for symptoms." Hahnemann says,

"When a person falls ill \* \* \* it is only the vital force, deranged to such an abnormal state, that can furnish the organism with its disagreeable *sensations*, and incline it to the irregular *functions*, which we call *disease*; for, as a power (vital force), invisible in itself, and only cognizable by its actions in the organism, its morbid derangement only makes itself known by the expression of *disease* in the *sensations* and *functions* of those parts of the organism exposed to the senses of the observer and physician, that is by *morbid symptoms*, and in no other way can it (disease) make itself known."

From this our opponents must indeed be dull in comprehension, if they cannot perceive



that Homœopathists are just as particular as themselves, if not more so, in seizing upon everything, however abnormal, to assist them in the diagnosis. The Homœopathist takes into account not only the *morbid sensations and functions*, but the whole *physical* aspect and *moral* condition of the patient; the sum total of the symptoms constituting valuable signs, which reveal the disease as much as is necessary, and which enable him to select the proper remedy for its cure. It follows, as the whole of the perceptible signs and symptoms of the disease depend upon an *internal alteration of the vital force*, that that *alteration* is the disease itself, and when its perceptible signs and symptoms disappear under the use of a Homœopathic remedy, the *internal alteration* which gave rise to them must have been also not only changed, but have totally disappeared, for health now results. *Sublatâ causâ, tollitur effectus*. Hahnemann further says:

“Now, as diseases are nothing more than *alterations in the health of the healthy individual*, which express themselves by morbid signs, and the cure is also only possible by a *change of the health of the diseased individual to the healthy condition*, it is very evident, that *medicines* could never cure diseases, if they did not possess the power of altering man's health, which consists in *sensations and functions*.”

If Dr. Manley, the *Medical Gazette*, and other Allopathic opponents, cannot now understand that a morbid symptom, induced through a drug, includes *function* as well as *sensation*, &c., we would advise them to take a liberal dose of Tartar Emetic, and afterwards to tell us how they relished their next meal, even should it be composed of the most “*piquant viands*.” Then we will feel anxious to be informed, whether they still consider our remedies to be assorted “according to the sensations (merely) which they produce.” We suspect they will discover that Tartar Emetic has produced, as “*symptoms of the medicine*,” not only sickness and nausea, but a loathing of food—an inability to eat—a rejection of food taken against the inclination or relish, showing that the *function* of the stomach is upset, as well as most unpleasant *sensations* being the result. It will now appear plain, we *guess*! even to Dr. Manley, that the symptoms of a medicine and the symptoms of a disease equally embrace *sensation* and *function*. Therefore, what Dr. Manley has stated is not true, viz., that the Homœopathist only avails himself of the medicinal *sensations*, neglecting, according to his version, the deranged *functions*. Dr. Manley does not seem quite to understand his own application of the terms “sensations” and “symptoms.” He tells us that, “remedies are assorted according to the *sensations* which they produce,” and that Homœopathists “prescribe for *sensations*, and not for symptoms.” In the same sentence he immediately tells us, that the “*symptoms of the medicine* guide the practitioners in their treatment.” So that at one time he tells us,

that sensations are not symptoms; and at another, he implies that symptoms are sensations. Such transatlantic Allopathic logic we cannot decipher. We must cast the onus of explanation upon his Anglo-propagandist, the *Medical Gazette*. The “*follies*” of “a deluded public” are more than matched by the vagaries of Dr. Manley's logic, which “sets at naught” all common sense. His premises and conclusions display an ignorance, at which not only he, but the *Medical Gazette*, ought to blush. We pity their mental darkness. The fact is, in the first three lines Dr. Manley uses the term “sensations” in two different senses: firstly, for the effects of the disease; and secondly, for the effects of the drug. For when he says, “Homœopathy prescribes for sensations,” he must mean the sensations of the disease; as in the act of writing his prescription, the physician cannot be supposed as yet to know what Dr. Manley presently calls “the sensations of the medicine,” before the patient has yet swallowed any. Dr. Manley seems to attach some great importance to the pointed contrast he has discovered between “sensation” and “symptom.” He should have known that symptom means the *feeling* of disturbance of the vital power. Criticism is not suited to all persons: it requires a knowledge of the right use of words, and of their rational application, *cum multis aliis*. Let us tell them that it is *not true* that Homœopathic “medicinal agents are remedial in an inverse proportion to the quantities exhibited.” Agents are remedial in proportion to their being perfectly Homœopathic to the case under treatment. In our former numbers of this Journal (to which we refer the *Medical Gazette*), we have shown this fully, as well as combated successfully, the unjust misrepresentation about the Homœopathic doses,—a hue and cry, which has been raised to intimidate the unthinking public, and jeer them out of their propriety. Such trickery has at length been detected; hence the gigantic growth of the Homœopathic community.—*Hom. Times*.

#### HOMŒOPATHY IN KENTUCKY.

Dr. E. Huff, of Louisville, Ky., under date of the 30th November, 1849, writes, that “The Homœopathists of Kentucky have held a convention in this city, and organized a Society, called ‘The Kentucky State Homœopathic Society.’ Homœopathy is gaining ground in this State since its unparalleled success in the treatment of Asiatic Cholera has been made manifest. It has received an impetus from its success in that epidemic that no sarcasm can overcome or reproaches impede. The number of practitioners is steadily and rapidly increasing, and the doctrine is becoming more and more popular daily, among the most intelligent portion of our community. The editors of all our papers are now favorable to it, and their columns opened to us for anything pertaining to it.”—*S. W. Hom. Journal*.



"I can admit," said a physician to us, "the law of cure, but the small doses I must reject. In truth, I see nothing objectionable in homœopathia but its doses." Our reply was, reasoning may lead you thus far, only experience can convince you of the doses.

**PHYSIOLOGICAL ACTION OF SMALL QUANTITIES OF MERCURY.**—The Galley Hospital of Rochefort had long been infested with immense quantities of bugs. Four pounds of Mercury were evaporated on five chafing dishes in the empty wards, and the stoves made very hot, and the room was aired for a fortnight before the patients were again admitted. However, 24 hours after they returned to this ward, 39 out of 43 patients became salivated, some of them very badly. They were again removed, and the ward was fumigated with chlorine, to combine chemically with the mercury. The bugs bore all these operations without suffering the least, and were as numerous afterwards as before.

### HOMŒOPATHY AT THE SPANISH COURT.

The *Eco del Comercio*, a Madrid newspaper, states that all the Royal physicians at the Court of Queen Isabella, had sent in their resignation. The reason for this, is the reception at Court of Dr. Nunez, a Homœopathist, who has been promoted in consequence of his being the attendant upon the favorite, General Serrano. This conduct of the Allopathic physicians appears to the editor of the *Lancet*, highly commendable, and worthy of imitation by the Court physicians of our own country, in the event of any dissenter from the legitimate ranks being admitted to the presence of majesty. It is most probable, however, that in the event of such an occurrence in this country, the leaders of the medical profession would change their opinion, as they once did in somewhat similar circumstances. A physician in high practice, but having a degree neither from Oxford nor Cambridge, applied to be admitted in the College of Physicians, of London. That illustrious and independent body replied, that they were sorry to deny so worthy an applicant, but it was against the laws to admit him. Soon afterwards he was appointed physician to the reigning sovereign, who expressed his desire to the College of Physicians, that he should be a member of their body. A Conclave was held without loss of time, and with all haste they abrogated their obnoxious clause *pro tem.*, had a diploma made out, signed, and dispatched to the physician to His Majesty, which he—*sent back to them.*—*Brit. Jour. of Hom.*

A professor in one of the medical colleges of this city acknowledged that "*similia similibus curantur*" is true. How is it, then, he does not perceive the absurdity of his relation to the allopathic school? A scientific man like him, cannot surely be influenced by money or the fear of his colleagues.

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# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

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*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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S. R. KIRBY, M. D., EDITOR.

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NEW-YORK, MARCH, 1850.

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## ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT, BY DERIVATION.

MOST of the mistakes in the education of children and youth are due to the preceptors not understanding the spiritual-corporeal nature of the human subject, and the order in which those faculties are developed, by which and through which true education should be conducted. One element only of the composite human being is for the most part, and often exclusively, attended to by those who undertake the duties of education; they think that their main business is to cultivate the mental faculties. This remark applies especially to public schools, of whatever kind, whether for the rich or the poor. Now, health of body is needful to the healthy development of the mind; and health of body and of mind is needful to the healthy development, in the educational sense, of the faculties of the soul.

Imitation is the first faculty that is naturally developed, by which a child learns. Ideality

is the next in order; and lastly come the reflective organs. The well-taught teacher, then, would in his or her ministry make use of these organs as educational instruments, in the successive order of their development, and at the successive periods of life in which they are developed, from infancy to childhood, and from childhood to youth and adolescence.

Education, then, should be hygienic, psychical, intellectual, spiritual—that is to say, in a word, rational, as suitable to the growth, and proper training of the spiritual-corporeal creature.

The mistakes and failures of teachers have been and are the mistakes and failures of the old school of medicine.

They have considered the human being merely as a *material* body, and their treatment of the diseases of mankind has been founded on this gross misconception of their subject. It is surprising how many glimpses of the higher order of truths were vouchsafed to the ancients, the Egyptians especially, through whom the Greeks derived their philosophy, who still in comparison of their teachers were fittingly admonished by an old Egyptian, "Ye Greeks are always children." In the old-world primitive ages, the priest and the physician were one; and he was generally the ruler also. Hergin, we see, recognized the principle of the spiritual-corporeal nature of man.

The sublime philosophy of Hahnemann is founded on the recognition of this principle; and practice were elaborated in strict accordance with it, and in subjection to the governing law—"like cures like."

"The old school of medicine believed it might cure diseases in a direct manner, by removal of the (imaginary) material cause of the disease: for to physicians of the ordinary school, while investigating and forming a judgment upon a disease, and not less while seeking for the curative indication, it was next to impos-

sible to divest themselves of these material ideas, and to regard the nature of the spiritual-corporeal organism, as a being so highly potentialized, that its vital changes of sensations and functions, which are called diseases, must be produced and affected chiefly, if not solely, by dynamic (spiritual) influences, and could not be effected in any other way.

"The old school regarded all those matters which were altered by the disease, those that manifested themselves in congestion, as well as those abnormal matters that were excreted, as the excitors of disease, or at least, on account of their supposed reacting power, as the maintainers of disease; and this latter notion prevails to this day. \* \* \*

"The champions of the clumsy doctrine of morbid matters ought to be ashamed that they have so inconsiderately overlooked and failed to appreciate the spiritual nature of life, and the spiritual dynamic power of the exciting causes of diseases, and that they have thereby degraded themselves into very scavenger-doctors, who, in their efforts to expel from the diseased body morbid matters that never existed, in place of curing, destroy life."—*Hahnemann's Organon*.

It was on the misconception so strikingly put by Hahnemann that the system of bleeding, purgatives and so forth, was strenuously advocated and fatally pursued. The false and material views entertained by the old school necessarily led to a false and material practice, in which the dynamic or spiritual forces, whether causative or curative of disease, were as a matter of course overlooked and unknown. The recognition of these forces, and the benignant practice founded on that recognition, is part of the essence of Homœopathy. Hahnemannism, then, is the opposite pole to the gross Materialism, which deals with the human being as if it were a cabbage or a stock-fish.

We come now to the second part of our analogy. The practitioners of the old school have, so far, founded their practice on *imitation* chiefly, with some portion of *ideality*. Under the *ideality* may be classed the divers theories, which in different ages have been the guides to medical practice, which, in these latter days, however, has been based chiefly on what has been called the *imitation* of nature. If this charge be substantiated, it follows that though they boast of being rationalists, they have never in truth pretended even to reach the higher dialectics, the province of the reasoning faculty, in the proper application of the reflective faculties to the very business of their life, a successful method of therapeutics. We are prepared to show that the Hahnemannian

philosophy ascends to the very height of this great argument; and that the Homœopathic doctrine is a matter of pure reasoning, so that while Hahnemann was a *Man*, in the sense of a reasoning being, his opponents are yet children, or at the very best, unbearded youths. So that the most venerable of the Allopathists, though his head be white and his beard grizzled if he claims to be an Apollo, must be truly designated as "imberbis Apollo," a very youthful and yet imperfect one.

"The more modern adherents of the old school do not wish it to be supposed that in their treatment they aim at the expulsion of material morbid substances. They allege that their multifarious evacuant processes are a mode of treatment by *derivation*, wherein they follow the example of Nature's efforts to assist the diseased organism, which resolves fever by perspiration and diuresis, pleurisy by epistaxis, sweat and mucous expectoration—other diseases by vomiting, purging, and bleeding from the rectum.—articular pains by ulcers on the legs,—quinsy by salivation, &c.; or removes them by metastases and abscesses which it develops in parts at a distance from the seat of the disease.

"Hence they thought the best thing to do was to *imitate* Nature, by also going to work in the treatment of most diseases in a circuitous manner, like the diseased vital force when left to itself; and thus in an indirect manner, by means of stronger heterogeneous irritants applied to organs remote from the seat of disease, and totally dissimilar to the affected tissues, they produced evacuations and generally kept them up, in order to *lead*, as it were, the disease thither.

"*The derivation*, as it is called, *was and continues to be one of the principal modes of treatment of the old school of medicine*.

"In this imitation of the self-aiding power of nature, as some call it, they endeavored to excite by force new symptoms in the tissues that are least diseased, and best able to bear the medicinal disease, which should lead away the primary disease under the semblance of crisis, and under the form of excretions, in order to admit of gradual *solution* by the curative powers of nature. \* \* \*

"It was evidently no rational principle, but merely *imitation*, which promised to simplify practice, that seduced the old school into those unhelpful and injurious modes of treatment, the *derivative* as well as the *antagonistic*; and led them to this plan of practice, so inefficacious, so debilitating, and so hurtful, of apparently ameliorating diseases for a short time, or removing them in such a manner, that another and a worse disease was roused up to occupy the place of the first. Such a destructive plan certainly cannot be called *curing*.

"They merely followed the example of crude instinctive in her efforts, which are



barely successful, even in the slighter cases of acute disease; they merely imitated the unreasoning, life-preserving power, when left to itself, in diseases which, depending entirely upon the organic laws of the body, is only capable of acting in conformity with these laws, and cannot be guided by reason and reflection; they copied nature, which cannot, like an intelligent surgeon, bring together the gaping lips of a wound, and by their union effect a cure; which knows not how to straighten and adjust the broken end of a bone, lying far apart, exuding much (often an excess of) new osseous matter; which cannot put a ligature on a wounded artery, but in its energy causes the patient to bleed to death; which does not understand how to reduce a dislocated shoulder, but by the swelling which it occasions around it soon presents an obstacle to reduction; which, in order to remove a foreign body from the cornea, destroys the whole eye by suppuration; which with all its efforts, can only liberate a strangulated hernia by gangrene of the bowel, and death, and which by the metastases it produces, in dynamic diseases, often renders them much worse than they were originally. But more, *this irrational vital force receives into our body, without hesitation*, the greatest plagues of our earthly existence, the spark that kindles the countless diseases beneath which tortured mankind has groaned for hundreds and thousands of years, the chronic miasms—psora, syphilis, sycosis—not one of these can it modify in the slightest degree, far less expel it single-handed from the organism; on the contrary, it allows them to rankle therein, until, often after a long life of the sufferer.

“In such an important affair as that of healing, which demands so much intelligence, reflection, and judgment, how could the old school, which arrogates to itself the title of rational, choose as its best instructor, as its guide to be blindly followed, the unintelligent vital force, inconsiderately copy its indirect and revolutionary operations in diseases, imagining those to be the *ne plus ultra*, the best conceivable, when that greatest gift of God, reflective reason and unfettered judgment, was given us to enable us infinitely to surpass its performances, for the benefit of humanity?

“When the old school practitioners, thoughtlessly imitating the crude, senseless, automatic vital force, with their antagonistic and derivative methods of treatment—by far their most usual plans—attack innocent parts and organs of the body, either inflicting on them excruciating pains, or, as is most frequently done, compelling them to perform evacuations, whereby strength and fluids are wasted; their object is to direct the morbid vital action in the primarily affected parts away to those artificially attacked, and thus to effect the cure indirectly, *by the production of a disease much greater in intensity and of quite a different kind*, in the more healthy parts of the body, consequently by a circuitous way, at the cost of

much loss of strength, and usually of great sufferings to the patient.”—*Hahnemann's Organon*.

The *vis medicatrix nature*, the healing power of nature, left to itself, is thus summarily disposed of. If we find this supposed curative inherent power is really, when unaided, so inert or so helpless in the external accidents and diseases, which we can touch and see, why should we think it more beneficially active, and more certainly curative of itself, in the internal diseases of which we cannot touch and see? The antagonistic treatment, *contraria contrariis*, which is in direct opposition to nature, and the *derivative* method of treatment, founded on the imitation of nature, the two chief modes of the old school, being shown logically untenable, it is so to be hoped that its practitioners will condescend at last to consider and study the Hahnemannian method, which is in accordance with strict logic, and which has for its direction a law of general applicability.

We trust it has been made evident from this paper, though brief and suggestive only, that the old school practitioners are not aware, or treat disease as if they were not aware, of the spiritual-corporeal nature of the human being; and that notwithstanding their vaunted rationalism, they have not truly and strictly applied the higher faculties of the mind to the study of medicine. That they are in truth little more than babes in comparison with Hahnemann.

When we consider how this great man is yet overlooked by teachers and professors in medical schools and colleges, how his sublime philosophy is left unstudied and unregarded, and how his excellent therapeutics are misprized because unknown, doubted because untried, neglected by the more understanding, and despised by the shallow,—our predominant feeling is that of a wondering pity. We hope the public may, through the instrumentality of these pages, week after week, become indoctrinated with his views, as after a time his practice will become the rule, as it is now the exception, with the great body of medical practitioners in these kingdoms.—*Homœopathic Times*.

#### THOUGHTS WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION.

The reception by medical men of new truths in medicine, when they contravene old notions, is so slow, and attended with so much



indifference or opposition, that one is at times tempted to give up the unthankful task of writing and publishing such truths. If any thing more than another in the history of medicine will be held up to generations to come, as a matter of astonishment, it will be the reception of the system of Hahnemann by the profession in his time. If one thing more than another goes to show, that those who are supposed to be the best qualified to judge, are the most unwilling and the very last to adopt new truths; the history of Homœopathy will hereafter be used for such a purpose. Whatever may be the boast of medical men, the fact is now prominent, that a reform in medical practice can only be brought about by the people themselves. The aristocratic spirit which for ages has prevailed in the profession, begins to yield to the sovereign power of the people; and although the Allopathic school struggles hard to prevent the spirit of democracy to enter within its high and thick walls, yet it must submit to the all-powerful influence of public opinion. In the midst of the theories, and of fallacious reasonings of the learned, the people keep an eye fixed upon results, and as they see ordinary and extraordinary diseased conditions yielding to the Homœopathic Art, they will not hesitate to declare their preference.

The time has come when every Homœopathic Physician will be regarded false to his duty, blind to his interest, and wanting in benevolence, if he fails to show his zeal by his works, in a hearty co-operation in the efforts now put forth to spread a knowledge of Homœopathia to every person throughout this vast country.

The period has arrived when the practitioner of our Art may boldly, firmly and universally adhere to that immutable law discovered by Hahnemann, and fully established by the thousands of his successors, and which is no longer a matter of doubt even in the minds of the intelligent of the profession who have not yet declared their adherence to Homœopathia.

The signs of the times indicate, that he who is false to his principles in the treatment of the sick, cannot receive the sanction of the public mind. Although some of us, on account of our education, find it no easy task to avoid an occasional leaning towards Allopathy, yet the success of genuine Homœopathia will soon teach the mongrel the absurdity of his course, and the suicidal nature of his position. The

daily experience of thousands in full practice in this country, cannot but tend to a more full development of a system of healing which is as yet but an infant of a day, to the full-grown man of fifty. When Homœopathia is practised as it ought to be, that dire disease, Consumption, will not be able as heretofore, to lay its thousands in the grave annually, of the fairest of God's creation. In this respect it is now doing more than the profession and the public are aware of, and we earnestly invite the attention of our Colleagues to this terrible disease, and the Hahnemannian treatment of it.

It should not be expected that practitioners of our Art will be equally skilful, but honor, honesty, and humanity imperatively demand that he who pretends to believe in the law of cure, should not depart from it in any case; neither the practitioner nor the sick ever gained any thing by doing so, and in the nature of the thing, they never can.

The day for groundless speculations in medicine, and for hazardous experiments in the treatment of the sick has passed, and whoever indulges in these will be shunned.

The success of Homœopathia in private practice, will soon make an opening for it into our public institutions; even now many of the managers of these establishments, from their own personal experience, have full faith in the new practice, and surely they cannot much longer endure to contribute by their labor, money and influence, to inflict upon the suffering poor a mode of medical treatment which they know is pernicious. The old Hospitals must admit Homœopathia, or new ones must be organized. We are aware that this will take time, but we shall have our eye fixed upon it, and we know our Colleagues will do the same, and after a while, patients themselves, however poor, will refuse a treatment which is repugnant to common sense, and obnoxious to human life.

#### CASE OF EXTENSIVE SKIN DISEASE.

E. S.——, aged 9 years. June 20, 1849. A sickly-looking girl—for about a year, has been affected with a skin disease in the form of a whitish, thick, scaly eruption, disposed in large serpentine patches over the arms, legs, thighs, and trunk, which sometimes itch, and in the open air or near a fire, smart much.—Weak eyes and sore lids; complexion pallid,



flushed and feverish in the afternoon; itching of nose and anus; pains in the abdomen; bowels costive.

These last symptoms giving evidence of the presence of worms, and the remedy indicated being Cina, I gave Cina 3, 2 drops of the tincture, 1-6 three times a day. Wait a day, and take Cina 12, 9 globules; 1-6 night and morning.

June 27th.—Has passed numerous ascarides, feels better, the scales are falling off. Sulphur, 5, 2 drops of the tincture, 1-9 three times a day. After an interval of two days, Sulph., 30, 3 globules on three successive nights.

July 4th.—Better. Graph. 5, 2 drops of the tincture, 1-6 three times a day; after an interval of two days, Graph. 12, 9 globules; 1-4 at night.

25th.—Scabs entirely disappeared, their former situation being only indicated by a slight redness of the skin. Eyes and eye-lids quite well.

August 21st.—Not a trace of the affection remaining; to prevent a relapse, I directed her to take at intervals of twelve days,—Sulph, 30; Graph. 200; Calc. c. 30.

#### *To the Editor of The Tribune :*

The writer of the following letter is a Physician and well known to me. He has had a professional experience of more than twenty years, in full practice, in the State of Maine. His letter will be esteemed by those who know him, and it may be interesting to the readers of *The Tribune*. S. R. KIRBY, M. D.

762 Broadway, Feb. 16, 1850.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20, 1849.

DEAR DOCTOR KIRBY: Since I had the pleasure of seeing you, I have seen the Elephant, as the phrase goes; have travelled over a good portion of the *El Dorado*—explored its mountains, its valleys, its streams, and its diggings, both wet and dry. I have been familiar with grizzly Bears, and grim Death; have contended, both in hospital and private practice, with all the forms of disease which have been so fatal to the army of gold-seekers, and think I know California well enough to give you a reliable description of its mines, climate and diseases.

As to the country itself, it is, as yet, the least desirable place of residence on the globe, except, perhaps, the Desert of Sahara. It never rains when rain is desirable, or could do any good; and in Summer, the heat and dust are intolerable, while in Winter, when the mildness of the weather would be delightful, the constant rains render the whole country impassable by converting the soil into an ocean of mud.

Many blame the climate and consider the water bad; but I must say I consider the cli-

mate a very good one, and the waters of the Sacramento the purest and sweetest I ever drank. The diseases endemic here are similar to those of our Western States: such as Fever and Ague, Bilious Remittents, Diarrheas and Dysenteries in the hottest part of Summer and Autumn; but all of a milder character than the same diseases in our Western States. But since the advent of the gold-hunters, a disease, so far as I can learn, heretofore unknown here, has made its appearance, a knowledge and just appreciation of the nature of which is necessary to the proper understanding of the fatal character other diseases have assumed here the past season. This disease is called by the miners Land Scurvy, and when fully developed is a terrible affair, and although resembling in its appearance the Sea Scurvy, or salt disease, is essentially different both as to its cause and means of cure.

In order fully to explain my views of this disease, a short physiological dissertation will be necessary. Modern chemistry teaches us that animals do not create for themselves any new matters, but only assimilate and appropriate to their own growth and nutrition material created and prepared for their use by the vegetable kingdom. Man avails himself of these nutritive matters either primarily in the shape of grains, fruits, roots, &c., or secondarily by feeding upon other animals who have already appropriated to themselves the same kind of substances. Now, all food is divided into two classes, called respectively respiratory food, or that which is consumed by the process of breathing and production of animal heat; and nutritive food, or that which goes to build up the system, and supply the waste. The first class consists of starch, gum, sugar, vegetable and animal oils, and the different preparations of alcohol. The other class is composed of fibrine, or the lean part of meat, the coagulum of blood, eggs, cheese, or the coagulable part of milk, the gluten or tough part of wheat, beans and other vegetables. Now, every man must be supplied with a due proportion of these two classes, which proportion varies according to the temperature and other conditions in which a man is placed. For instance, the Lumbermen of Maine and Canada live for six months at a time during the Winter season, almost exclusively upon fat pork, flour and molasses, and in the Spring come out perfect specimens of health and vigor, while in Summer upon the same diet in the woods, they are apt soon to break down and come out looking sickly and emaciated.

A Laplander or Esquimaux will eat and even require a quantity of fat that would destroy an inhabitant of Tropical or Temperate climates, while the fruits and vegetables of warmer regions would not be sufficient to support life in high latitudes.

Now in order to possess health we must attend to and conform to the laws of our organization. This the miners and California emigrants have not done. Upon their overland



journeys and at the mines they have almost entirely lived upon fried bacon or fat pork and flour made into batter-cakes, and fried in the fat, which completely saturates it, and this is washed down with large quantities of strong coffee, and large quantities of brandy or whiskey taken in the intervals of the meals. This has been the diet of thousands for months, under a scorching sun when the temperature was over a hundred in the shade, and at the same time subjected to most intense labor.

Now from what we have learned of the requirements of the system, what will result?—Why, we shall find the muscular system in a state of starvation from want of supply of fibrine in the shape of lean meat, and of complete exhaustion from over-exertion, stimulated by the love of gold, strong coffee and alcohol, and the whole economy poisoned by being saturated with fat, which was not required for the production of animal heat.

The consequence of this is, that after a time the strong man (generally the strongest, the heartiest feeder and best worker in the company) suddenly finds himself destitute of strength, his limbs fail, he has palpitations of the heart on the slightest movement, his limbs contract and are troubled with cramps; his face, lips and tongue are bloodless, his gums swell and bleed, black spots show themselves in various parts of the body, sometimes covering half the surface, and if no amelioration takes place the patient suddenly expires from some slight effort at motion. This is a picture of a severe case; but modifications of these symptoms manifest themselves in a large proportion of the people who have come in over the Plains or have spent much time at the mines, and if they happen to contract or get a development of any of the endemic diseases of the country, such as ague, diarrhea or dysentery, from this broken state of the system, no vital re-actions take place, and physicians are astonished at the difficulty of getting a patient up when once down; and a dose of calomel or a blue pill I have seen many times induce mortification of the face, and a dose of castor oil taken for constipation produces a diarrhea very difficult to cure.

Now in regard to the Mines of this country. I am satisfied that gold-digging has as yet not commenced; that the surface washings are simply gathering the chips which old Time has been for ages hewing from the main blocks which still lie entombed in the bosom of the mountains, in the immediate neighborhood of the ravines and river bars where the shavings and chips are deposited, and the "*aura sacra fames*" is bound still to draw thousands hither from all parts of the world.

The question, then, is one of some consequence: Must the ranks be annually decimated as they have been the past season? I answer without hesitation, that there is nothing in the climate or waters of California particularly unhealthy, and that there is not another country on the globe where men could practise such a disregard of all the laws of the animal

economy with so much impunity and so small a per centage of deaths as they have done here.

Let those coming here, as well as those already in the country, make their arrangements to avoid a pork diet, supply themselves with beef or fish, salt if they cannot get fresh; wheat; meal or bread made from it; cheese; dried fruits when possible, and Indian corn meal and rice. Let them boil instead of frying their provisions, avoid alcohol, in *warm weather* most especially; and instead of coffee or tea, use chocolate with their meals.

Follow the instincts of nature by avoiding severe labor in the heat of the day, and let not the love of gold stimulate to an overtaking of the powers at any time, and I have no hesitation to guarantee as good health to the new comers as the natives have enjoyed till the last season when, having been subjected to the same influences, they have suffered nearly as much as foreigners.

There is one affliction peculiar to this country, which I forgot to mention and that is poisoning by the poison-oak or *Rhus Toxicodendron*, and poison-vine or *Rhus Radicans*.—Scarcely any one who is susceptible to the effects of these plants escapes an infliction, owing to the great abundance of both, and owing also to the broken-down state of the system from the causes mentioned above. Even this is frequently fatal, and if not, it is very difficult to cure, as are all hurts, sores, &c., from the same cause.

Whoever in coming to California will observe the above simple rules, may stand as good a chance for health as if he were merely taking a journey through the States, or crossing the Atlantic.

There is one observation more, which is that all should avoid taking powerful medicines, whether sick or well, and rather trust to the kindly efforts of nature, assisted by proper regimen and diet than to all the imaginary and delusive effects of drugs. Most physicians have made the discovery that patients do not bear what is called active treatment here, and for myself, I can say that the only incurable cases I have met were those which were made so by the so-called remedies they had taken.

Yours fraternally, BENJ. OBER, M. D.

#### CASE OF LONG-STANDING ULCERS OF THE LEG.

February 7th, 1849. J. J.—, aged 60, cook on board a steam-vessel, applied to me for advice. For the last twelve or fifteen years he has had ulcers in different parts of his body, his forehead, arms, legs, &c., being quite seamed with old cicatrices. These ulcers have been repeatedly "cured" (?) by local applications, but no sooner has one set disappeared, than another has broken out elsewhere. For the last three years, however,



several large ones on his left leg have defied all treatment, and in his extremity he consulted me; for some months he has been confined to his room. I found the leg covered with deep, unhealthy-looking ulcers, some upwards of an inch in depth, and itching intensely; bowels costive. Sulph. 12, 9 globs., 1-6 three times a day.

10th. An evident improvement; discharge of a more healthy character; erysipelatous redness around the sores. Bell. 12, 9 globs.; Hep. Sulph. 12, 9 globs.; 1-6 of each alternately every four hours.

14th. Ulcers filling up rapidly! Rep. Med.

19th. Ulcers closing over; itches all over his body. Sulph. 5, 6 drops of the Tincture in a tumbler of water as a lotion; Sulph. 30, 8 globs., 1-6 at night.

March 9th. Healing is fast, except one place. Sulph. 30, 4 globs., 1-3 night and morning.

16th. Old sores nearly well, but stationary; a few fresh ones forming, extremely painful, with thick yellow discharge. Hepar 30, 8 globs., 1-4 night and morning.

The old ulcers speedily healed, but small troublesome ones were continually making their appearance, until the end of June, when there were only two small ones remaining, which, however, remained at a stand-still for a month; but in the beginning of August, I had the pleasure of seeing his leg perfectly sound, and presenting none of the deep scars and cicatrices which disfigured his other limbs. His bowels are regular, and his general health quite restored. I gave him Sulph., Merc., Sol., Lyc., Lach., Rhus, Hepar, &c.; but the most marked benefit followed the employment of Sulph., with an intercurrent remedy now and then.

*For the American Journal of Homœopathy.*

### A BRIEF REPLY

TO A WORK ENTITLED "MEDICAL REFORM,"  
BY ISAAC JENNINGS, M. D., PUBLISHED 1847.

BY DR. C. M. DAKE, NEW-YORK.

DR. JENNINGS conceived disease to be "right action," and hence inferred that Art was not required. Or he deprecated all remedial treatment of the sick, because he believed in "the theory of right action in disease."

The work is evidently one of labor and thought, and well calculated to make an impression; for it abounds in a species of benevolence, witty design, and appeals. It contains many hygienic rules that render it worthy a careful examination; aside from this it is a matter of speculation. In attempting to make out his "theory of right action in disease," his

arguments appear as singular as inefficient. He summons the diversified operations of the vital forces both in disease and health, and arranges them as though he had received a special revelation from heaven.

In his introduction, page 29, we read the following: "Physicians have not been able, with all their indefatigable labors, to show in what the wrong action (meaning disease) consists." Neither can we, or he, analyze life, force, or power. Some of their operations we may behold—sufficient to satisfy us of their existence. Again, on page 82, he informs us in what he conceived "disease consists." "Disease consists in a failure of the instruments or organs of motion (either in their single or joint capacity,) to fulfil their accustomed amount of healthy action, through deficiency of power; and also in whatever changes may be effected in the condition of the solids, or fluids, as the direct result of such default in action." As this quotation so plainly announces its own absurdity, comment is not necessary.

In another argument he expressly declares, that God is too benevolent to allow wrong action in disease. We read on page 229—"The theory of disease which I now hold (says Dr. Jennings) and advocate, is, to my mind, not only more rational, more consistent with the general laws and operations of nature than the old views of disease, but better vindicates the benevolence of God."

Another argument consists in an elaborate analysis of vital action, in which he has much to say in regard to how those powers are to be distributed.

One more class of arguments will be introduced, after which we shall pass on to the remarks that are to constitute our reply.

Another and the most elaborate of all the arguments, relates to practical results, which, if they had been rightly conducted, would have been an argument difficult to confute. Wherein he fails in this argument is obvious. He attempts to make out his premise ("right action in disease,") by contrasting his do-nothing system (if we may so term it,) with the wrong-doing or do-too-much system, of which the Doctor has had ample observation and considerable practical experience. If we were in possession of no other knowledge, perhaps we might entertain similar views; but being in possession of that kind of knowledge and more, that which arises from

a due course of study and several years' practice, in accordance with a *law of cure* originated by *Hahnemann*, viz.: "*SIMILIA SIMILIBUS CURANTUR*," we cannot concede statements nor arguments so repugnant to common sense and more enlightened views of the nature and cure of disease.

We much regret that the distributive powers of which Dr. Jennings has made such free use, had not been directed to the right portion of his organism, so as to have enabled him to have examined, as thoroughly and practically, the principles and practice of Homœopathy, as that of *heroic doses*, *bread-pills* and *colored water* results, for then he would have learned a different lesson. That there is a faculty in drugs to cure disease, and of shortening the sufferings of the sick in a mild and peaceable manner, and without the infliction of injury on any portion of the organism, or a violation of any of the laws that govern organic arrangement. And more, he would have learned that his ideas of right or wrong action in disease were of no practical value; that disease could be removed—could be cured by the administration of medicines, whose known effects on individuals in health had been known to have excited sufferings similar to those which the sick present.

In regard to theories, Dr. Jennings remarks, page 212: "Theories new or old are of no value only as they are supported by indubitable testimony." We admit this statement, take sides, and abide the result.

In the first place we must learn, if we do not know, what constitutes "indubitable testimony." Are not all the facts connected with a subject under consideration necessary to make up the evidence? Certainly. Indubitable testimony then is *all* the facts in the case. What are the facts in the case which we have under consideration? Are they not one-sided? Are they the whole of the facts? Let us see. Dr. J. has tested thoroughly, and has ample knowledge of drug, colored water, and bread-pill results, in the treatment of disease, and such results are favorable to colored water and bread-pill treatment. Has Dr. Jennings thoroughly examined, or had he knowledge of the Homœopathic therapeutics and the results of the practice? No. Then the evidence which he furnishes is not "indubitable testimony."

Together with the practical results furnished

by Dr. J., we add those which Homœopathy furnish.

Trials of *HEROIC DOSES*, *COLORÉD WATER*, *BREAD-PILL* and *HOMŒOPATHIC* treatment have been made in hospital and private practice; and in every instance where such trials have been rightly conducted by individuals sufficiently qualified to do justice in the premises of each department, has Homœopathy been victorious, so far as regards the numbers cured, the time in accomplishing it, and the amount of suffering endured while it was being accomplished. The writer of this article not only holds himself responsible for the above statements, but is prepared to give one hundred to one, more evidence in substantiation of said statements than Dr. J. has published in confirmation of colored water, and bread-pill treatment. For a few results of Hospital trials, we will refer our readers to "*A Popular view of Homœopathy*, by R. Everest." For the results of private practice, we shall refer to several hundred regularly-educated physicians, both in Europe and America, who have practised in accordance with the principles of Homœopathy and other schools of medicine, for a series of years. Also to the thousands cured by Homœopathy, many for whom friends had ceased to hope, and after other systems had failed. And also to the faithful, the scientific, and honest observers who have offered upon the altar, the incense of grateful hearts to the God of mercy, for the benign and incalculable blessings of Homœopathy conferred upon suffering humanity.

It is of no value, for any one to raise up an opposing theory, and much less attempt to establish and defend it, when facts claim an opposite position. And it will require more philosophy than ever flowed from the pen of any writer to make rational men believe disease necessary for the present happiness of man or the perpetuity of human life. However, when disease exists, the symptoms (the only source from whence a knowledge of disease can be obtained,) are necessary if the cure is called for; for they point out the cause and the remedy that is to cure.

One thing is certain, mankind are subject to suffering, call it disease or by any other name. And another thing is certain, we possess medical remedies that will alleviate those sufferings, and destroy from the body ocular demonstrations of an unnatural condition unless removed, renders death preferable.



Disease is wrong action ; or it is subversive, and therefore wrong action. To illustrate.—An individual exposes himself (and man is and always will be exposed to the cause of disease) to the contagion of smallpox, or to the miasm of the marshy districts of the western wilds ; he removes five hundred miles from the place of infection to a healthy district. When, lo, all at once he becomes ill, symptoms are being developed. The vital forces have not been able to control the subversive forces—and the subversive forces continuing the smallpox, or the ague and fever as they are usually termed, is developed. From the time the individual was infected until the development of the disease, who will contend that that action was right action ? Follow the disease on to convalescence or death, and mark well its progress. The symptoms are now being developed, the inherent forces controlling organic action are at work, or in other words, the specific forces ordained by God to perpetuate the existence of the parts in which the disease exists (until the time appointed, not known to man) are at work, doing the best they can ; yet the disease increases—the sufferings are severe—the symptoms multiply. Where was nature or right action when it permitted that miasm or contagion to arrange and develop subversive action ? Call the suffering of that poor invalid, right action, because nature, forsooth, was convulsed, and labored hard to check the progress of the disease, and administer no remedy, and by such procedure let the sufferings multiply, and the tenement of the immortal mind prematurely perish, simply because nature's office is to keep off opposing forces, to concentrate where disease is, to fight hard the battle, and also to repair the injury done the organs or parts in which the disease exists !—As well might a preacher of the everlasting gospel say to his hearers, you are to be saved by an efficacious law, which the Lord of life and immortality has established : consequently you have nothing to do, and rendering void that scripture which saith “Come unto me,” and again “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel.” “He that believes shall be saved ; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” The Almighty, the maker and ruler of the universe has established laws by which man is to be governed, both in his spiritual and physical relation ; therefore if God has enjoined upon man obedience to his spiritual law, and after man had transgressed that ; if God

did then provide means for man's salvation, and require acceptance as the only terms ; has not the same merciful God provided and established some sure means of relief when man is suffering from a transgression of the laws of physical existence, and that will effectually accomplish it in a manner as truly consistent ? It is too self-evident to call for contradiction, that if the Lord of life has established means of redemption after the transgression of his spiritual law, He has not left man without means of relief when suffering from a transgression of the common laws of his nature, unless the transgression transcends the law, from which there is no salvation ; and as this latter condition is only known to him who framed those laws, man's duty is, to do, to act, to adopt, to pursue, and act rationally, in accordance with the principles which should govern all men in the premises.

In regard to the statement “disease is right action,” is it not surprising that any one should deviate so widely from the path of common intelligence, as to entertain and publish to the world views so perfectly discordant with the revelation which the Supreme Ruler of the universe has thrown in the path of every man, to guide him to the right source of all knowledge. Sad indeed if God has so ordered that the sinner's doom is fixed ; that no repentance, no tears of contrition, no humiliation, no ; not even though he knock at the door of mercy, will avail. God has not commanded such to be published, but in its place, He hath said, “Knock and it shall be opened, seek and ye shall find,” “Come unto me all that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.” Such language is in strict accordance with the character and attributes of God, and announces in the most unequivocal manner, “That faith without works is dead,” “Even so faith if it hath not works is dead, being alone.” In explanation and vindication of the course pursued by us, in answering some of the arguments presented by Dr. J., we would say to such of our readers, who have not perused his work on “Medical Reform,” that he has been quite profuse in quotations from the sacred scriptures.

That disease is the result of a violation of the laws of life, we shall not doubt, and that without such violation, man would have remained forever impregnable against the causes that now operate on him in the production of disease, we shall not doubt. Neither shall we



doubt, that power was given to the destroyer in the fall of the primeval pair, to sow the seeds of death, and that they will continue to be sown until man is no longer mortal. But that in many cases the seeds of death would have remained in embryo, only for exciting causes, is equally true; yet that there are causes that will continue to act in the production of disease, that operate, that will continue to operate on man, that are entirely beyond his control, is nevertheless true. This is the order of nature; sin has entered the world and will exercise its dominion, until man is released from the grasp of the destroyer, and the only manner of obtaining release from the sufferings incidental to a violation of heaven-ordained laws, consists in observing the laws of life as dictated by Him who gave life, and provided the means for its perpetuity. If we are in possession of means that can antidote the sufferings of the sick, (by neutralizing the cause that excited the sufferings) and the means act in accordance with the laws of animal life: we may apply the means; yea more, the commands of Jehovah must be obeyed, we *must* do it, and if the law of cure upon which Homœopathy is based is capable of effecting such results, as all the evidence ("indubitable testimony") unequivocally evince, not only are the commands of the Lord of life binding, but the honor and dignity of the physician demand that he *shall* dispense its blessings—that he shall, (in place of dogmatizing, theorizing, and attempts to show emblazoning suit, like the lighted torch in the darkness of night, giving brilliant light according to the amount of combustible material in it, conducting the traveler on, until well into the wiles among thorns, deep waters and quick sands the torch goes out, what a sad predicament) rely upon facts, omnipotent facts, for they are the rallying point around which the devotees of medical science must congregate, if they would advance the most useful and exalted of earthly professions.

#### FOUNDING OF A HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL IN DUBLIN.

*To the Editor of the Homœopathic Times.*

GENTLEMEN.—With much pleasure I am enabled to inform you of the establishment and approaching opening of a Homœopathic hospital in Dublin on a large scale, and under the most favorable auspices.

For many years a branch of the charitable order called "Sisters of Mercy" has been actively engaged in visiting the sick poor of Dublin, going daily from house to house amongst the most wretched of the population, and dispensing medicine, with appropriate food, to thousands of poor invalids, that otherwise would have been abandoned without any medical attendance.

Accidentally, about four years ago, Homœopathy was brought under the attention of the sisterhood. One of the members having had a near relation cured by Dr. Luther (a most accomplished Homœopathist in Dublin). The practice of Dr. Luther proved so successful subsequently with some members of the sisterhood, that, after their long experience of Allopathy amongst the sick poor, they were induced to study Homœopathy, and gradually to introduce its practice in their daily visits of charity; the best proof of the success of which is shown by the fact of a few years' experience of its efficacy being sufficient to induce them now to establish an hospital, with regular Homœopathic medical attendants to diffuse those benefits the more widely, and aid their own individual exertions in house to house visiting, by having a central hospital, with beds to receive the most serious cases occurring under their notice.

The place selected is in Upper Baggot Street, where extensive premises (lately occupied as a manufactory) have been taken, and are now being actively remodelled, and furnished with wards, beds, and all the requisites of an hospital. It is to be supported exclusively by voluntary contributions, and has already received the sanction and approval of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin (a very necessary preliminary). The number of beds will be at first sixty; but it is hoped, that after a little time they will be enabled to increase it to one hundred and twenty, for which they have space.

My friends, Drs. Luther and Walter, will be the attendant physicians, and the whole watched over by a large number of the good sisters, whose devoted charity and benevolence prompt them to become the nurses and attendants upon the sick poor, as well as their comforters during the "struggle for life" that disease so oft exhibits.

This will, we trust, prove another illustration of the power which true devotedness and zeal in the cause of "*truth*" can acquire, and the wonders it can achieve. May it not also—should it not? serve as an additional inducement to the friends of Homœopathy in England to come forward liberally and assist in the establishment of the Homœopathic hospital now being founded by the united exertions of the British Homœopathic Association and the British Homœopathic Medical Society. It shows also that the *active personal exertions* of individuals amongst the public at large, and the sick poor around them, far outweigh in results mere bestowing of money to the same



purpose, as the seed compared to the harvest crop.

With ample reason we may now hope, that the success of Homœopathy in the new hospital of the Sisters of Mercy, in Dublin, will produce results equal to those of the similar institutions at Vienna and at Linz (in Hungary), whose statistics have excited so vast a sensation over the Continent of Europe, and advanced the condition of Homœopathy in Austria and Hungary almost beyond that of her ancient sister fast falling into the "sere and yellow leaf."

You are doubtless aware of the existence in Dublin of an hospital, under the control of a kindred sisterhood, "The Sisters of Charity," where 100 beds are kept constantly occupied with patients under the Allopathic system for nearly twelve years. This will afford the two systems a very fair opportunity of comparison under exactly the same influences and circumstances, and silence the arguments which Dr. Forbes, and his friend Dr. Balfour, made use of against the results of Homœopathic treatment in Vienna, where they asserted that the moral influence of such religious observances, and the peaceful quietness of such an institution, added to the success of the treatment.

Very cordially yours,

JOSEPH KIDD.

Moorgate Street, August 23d, 1849.

For the American Journal of Homœopathy.

### ON DOSES.

On page 67 of Hartmann's *Acute Diseases*, translated by Dr. Hempel, Vol. 1st, whilst treating upon Doses, the following passage occurs.

"The *character* of the disease, which we are called upon to treat, is likewise an important consideration in the selection of the dose. Erethism and torpor cannot possibly be treated with the same dose. In a state of erethism the vital functions are carried on with great rapidity, and require for their regulation the higher potencies; in torpor, on the contrary, the vitality is very much depressed, and requires to be roused into re-action by larger and stronger doses." The writer's experience proves the reverse of the above position of Hartmann's.

The views of the writer as regards doses, being somewhat new, he will give them, in order better to set forth his antagonistic position.

Starting first with a general consideration of the subject of health and of disease, we concede to the human body as a whole, and to every separate part of the human body two separate and distinct *attributes*. 1st., a material and 2d., an immaterial attribute. The

material attribute is that of which our perceptive faculties have full cognizance,—the immaterial attribute is that which we can only guess at and speculate upon.

When the healthy organism is invaded by the dynamic influence of disease, one or the other or both attributes is or are disturbed.

They may be distributed equally or alike, or one may be more so than the other.

Hartmann says "erethism and torpor cannot possibly be treated with the same *dose*"—and further recommends the higher potencies in erethism, and the lower in torpor.

Erethism according to the writer's views, is a condition in which the *material* attributes is more disturbed than the *immaterial*, in torpor the reverse is the case, and thus viewing the condition of things, experience has satisfied him that the reverse of Hartmann's recommendation of doses, is the true course to pursue.

The only guide to the use of drugs, according to a scale of potencies, must depend upon a knowledge of the dynamic influence of disease upon the material and the immaterial attributes of the human organism, as well as upon the organism itself.

An investigation of this kind would lead to a knowledge of a disturbed attribute growing out of a functional or an organic abnormal condition.

BATH, (Me.,) March 1st, 1850.

Doct. Kirby,

DEAR SIR.—I hope the Journal will be continued. If necessary to that end you may command me for \$5 or more. Your independence in speaking out and your often expressed determination to have no adulteration with Allopathy, meet my hearty concurrence. This yielding ground to Allopathy—repudiating the doctrine of *potentization*, and admitting the usefulness and necessity of the "*heroic*" application of drugs, for the purpose of encircling in our arms the whole *corpse medical*, is the bane of our divine Art,—it may extend, nominally, the Homœopathic doctrine, but can never further its truly scientific and practical development. In order to come truly, practically, and thus usefully, into the only scientific and philosophic method of healing the sick, the old ground must be entirely abandoned,—there is not one firm foot-hold on the vast expanse occupied by Allopathy, by which a



single devotee can save himself from the utter ruin which awaits that doomed and fast-sinking continent. There is no middle ground.

It seems to me that a journal devoted to pure Homœopathy should be sustained in this country, and well sustained, and I doubt not that such would be the case if every Homœopath—those who see the importance of promulgating theoretically, or practically, Homœopathy in its purity—would exert a little influence to that end. Every Homœopathic practitioner might contribute from \$1 to \$5, and many perhaps more, for the purpose of disseminating the doctrines.

It cannot be doubted that Homœopathy is advancing with rapid strides throughout the civilized world, and it remains for those who are its guardians, to see that it does not suffer from supineness, and consequently an adulteration with Allopathy, for such is the legitimate end of indolence.

Since I commenced the practice of Homœopathy in 1840—the first in Maine—it has gradually, but steadily increased; so from a solitary practitioner, in 1840, Maine can now number 20 at least, and the subject is receiving much attention by the laity all over the State. The wheel is in motion, and it may be confidently hoped, that the end of the next 10 years will behold it rapidly revolving—increasing and regenerating.

Yours very truly,

WM. E. PAYNE.

#### A FEW WORDS ON SMALL DOSES.

It is conceded by the profession, generally, that a knowledge of the effects of drugs on the human organism is necessary in order to practise with success. The New School has no other basis; and unless strictly observed loses its identity as a distinct mode of practice. This knowledge is derived from two sources—the one by noting the effects of drugs on healthy subjects—the other by observing their influence on diseased persons: it is apparent that without a correct knowledge of both confusion must result, and practice, accordingly, will be unsafe and irrational. Unless the distinct bounds of each is thoroughly understood—the precise extent to which each poison affects the system—how is it possible to determine the quantum of any remedy to answer the end in view? The great objection usually urged by the opposition, is in reference to the size of the doses used in Homœopathy. The objection is not unexpected; it is natural for mankind to call in question anything that conflicts with long-cherished opinions; were it otherwise experience would cease to be a safe

rule of conduct. An observance of the mandates of experience in many respects is proper, but if rigorously applied there must be an end of all inventions and discoveries. The object of the physician is to restore health to the sick in the most safe and speedy manner: if it can be done by small doses they should be used in preference to large ones. Upon this point there is no disagreement among medical men. Proof of their sufficiency is questioned by some and denied by others. Hospital reports, as well as evidence of it in private practice, are ample: the workings of the system are observed by persons in every community, which must arrest their attention unless their eyes are closed to truth. How, it is asked, are such results obtained? Upon what principle do infinitesimal quantities achieve such wonders? This is easily answered: any one at all acquainted with Homœopathic literature is already informed upon the subject—but to the question. There are three reasons in explanation of it: First, because remedies are given in accordance with the *law* "like cures like." Second, the peculiar mode of Homœopathic preparation of drugs develops and exalts their power: Third, the remedy attacks the disease in its seat or abode. It is known to every pathologist that disease renders organs exceedingly susceptible to the impression of medicine. In the new system medicinal agents act directly on diseased parts, in consequence of which the same quantity is not required as when the disease is reached indirectly or by producing abnormal conditions of sound organs. The diseased part is the chief point claiming the attention of the physician; sound parts should not be molested, or morbid impressions ensue, as is daily verified by Allopathic practice. The idea of increasing or aggravating a disorder, in order to cure it, is a common remark of the opposite school; this is done to justify their system of treatment, knowing it to be impossible to give large quantities of medicine without producing prostration and deathly sickness. Now, if small doses will cure a patient—as is proved by our extraordinary success—is there any good reason for giving more? We should say not.

In inflammation of the stomach the treatment by Allopathy is light, the smallest quantity of medicine is given; and why? Because the drug coming in direct contact with the seat of the disease is powerfully irritating; which if treated with large doses would not only cause insufferable pain, but death. This illustrates and corroborates the position assumed, that medicines acting directly on diseased organs or surfaces require, for their cure, infinitesimal doses. Vaccine virus is used by physicians of all schools, as a preventive of small pox. Why not use more than the usual quantity in vaccination? For the simple reason, Experience has taught us it is sufficient for all purposes to effect the object in view. The most minute portion of matter is sufficient to propagate the contagion; perhaps much less



than is to be found in the most attenuated form of Homœopathic medicines. What says Allopathy to this imitation or adoption of our principle? The aroma of flowers is powerfully medicinal to some constitutions: the merest atom of odor, it seems, is often sufficient to produce great nausea and faintness. It is needless to enumerate examples of the effect of medicinal agents existing in a state of high dilution in the atmosphere, disturbing the laws of health according to circumstances of age, sex, constitution, &c. The writer is acquainted with a medical gentleman who is so susceptible to the influence of ipecac. that a vial of it, (powders,) opened in a room, will immediately bring on him a violent paroxysm of asthma: I hope it will be remembered this drug is used by us in the treatment of this disease: it is asked of our opponents an explanation of the phenomena.

There can be no justification for the use of drugs given in large quantities in the treatment of diseases, having seen or proved by irrefragable evidence that their removal may be certainly and safely effected by infinitesimal doses. If this point is still unsettled with some, it is from their wilful blindness—facts being before the mind which cannot be set aside: simple denial may be made, as any one can do it, but it does not, cannot, refute the truth of the position. If this course is pursued by Allopathy, there is no excuse for those who, under the garb of Homœopathy, adopt a mixed practice to the great injury of the new system. Besides, the professions of such will not long pass unnoticed or undetected; their spurious practice, bad and hurtful to the human system, must ere long expose its worthlessness, and consign its authors to cold neglect and forgetfulness. All attempts to confound or blend the two systems of practice should be promptly met and rebuked. It is no doubt the wish of many to see the line of distinction between the two obliterated, and the new system sacrificed on the altar of *bloody* Allopathy. It is the duty of the guardians of Homœopathy following in the footsteps of its immortal founder, not only to cherish for his name increased veneration, and gratitude for his services, but to keep constantly before the people his teachings, and the great value of his precepts as corroborated both by his contemporaries and successors. While independence is manly and allowable in every investigation, yet that which has been established upon an immovable foundation, and corroborated by the experience of subsequent laborers, must be true and should not be hastily set aside, unless a better *one* is proposed as a substitute, particularly by Pseudo-Homœopaths whose zeal greatly exceeds their knowledge.

Those following a mixed practice are the persons who usually associate with Allopathy, to incur favor in order to secure spoils, who are ever ready to compromise principle—hence their advocacy of *large* doses, even should they be Homœopathic to the disease. They are

self-styled *rational* practitioners, indulging in speculations of which mankind has been surfeited for generations past, leaving totally the safe and beaten track of experience or knowledge, founded upon experimentation, which alone is of any practical use in life.—*S. W. Hom. Jour.*

#### ALLOPATHIC PHYSICIANS ADMIT THE TRUTH OF HOMŒOPATHY.

We have the names of several Allopathic physicians of this city, who on some occasions pretend to prescribe for their patients Homœopathically. We do not object to such proceedings, if what is pretended is really accomplished, but of this there is room for doubt; for we have within a few days conversed with two of those gentlemen, and found them quite ignorant of Homœopathy. Therefore they deceive themselves and their patients. We do not like to charge them with downright hypocrisy, but their conduct as above, is an admission of the truth of Homœopathy.

*The St. Louis Probe.* Edited by A. I. COONS, M. D. and JOHN R. ATKINSON, M. D.

The 1st and 2d numbers of this new Allopathic Journal has been received at this office. It is published monthly at *St. Louis, Mo.*

In the 2d number, Dr. Atkinson has an article on the "therapeutic uses of Cod Liver Oil." We fail to find any thing to change our opinion of this medicine, already expressed. Dr. A. quotes a Dr. Williams, of London, and says:

His observations upon its effects in Phthisis are startling, and at first sight incredible; and had we not, on several occasions, witnessed results of its administration in this disease as surprising as those recounted by Dr. W., we should have been disposed to regard his representations of its wonderful success as somewhat colored by the enthusiasm, of which he possesses no inconsiderable share. During two years and a-half he treated 400 cases of tuberculous disease of the lungs, of 234 of which he preserved notes, and in 19 only of those was the Oil given without benefit; "whilst in 206 cases out of the 234 its use was followed by marked and unequivocal improvement, this improvement varying in degree, in different cases, from a temporary retardation of the progress of the disease, and a mitigation of distressing symptoms, up to a more or less complete restoration to apparent health." Not only in the first stage did he exhibit it with advantage, but in the second and in the most advanced stage were its benefits manifest. In the former



"the cough was mitigated, the expectoration diminished in quantity and opacity; the night sweats ceased; and pulse became slower and of better volume; and the appetite, flesh and strength, were gradually improved." In the latter "where consumption has not only excavated the lungs, but is rapidly wasting the whole body with copious purulent expectoration, hectic night sweats, colliquative diarrhea, and other elements of that destructive process by which, in a few weeks, the finest and fairest of the human family may be sunk to the grave." Dr. W., therefore, concludes (and we think his conclusion may be safely concurred in by those who have used the Oil in phthisis) "that Cod Liver Oil, even as a tardative or palliative agent in phthisis, takes a rank far above any other hitherto recommended, whether medicinal or regimental." After the evidence we have adduced of the beneficial effects of this remedy in the various forms of cachexia, and particularly of its marked success in consumption, we trust that those of the profession who may read these remarks, will be induced to give it a trial. An agent capable of arresting, or at least of retarding, the progress of a disease hitherto considered incurable, recommends itself to the attention of all; and though it may not gain general confidence, it, at any rate, should be tried. If the representations of the numerous observers, whose experience in its use, we have adverted to, are worthy of credence—and their eminence certainly entitles them to respect—we shall have in our possession the means of staying the progress of a disease thus far beyond the reach of the best-directed skill, and which has proved so fatal a scourge to the human family.

A genuine Homœopath of three years' practice can accomplish much more, by his remedies than is here claimed for Cod Liver Oil. If this is a remedy for any form of *phthisis*, we do not, nor does the Editor of the Probe, know it. It is at present a quack medicine, and nothing else, it being prescribed by Allopathists does not alter the case at all. Its use is but an experiment, a blind experiment, for there is nothing like a rule to guide the practitioner in its administration to the sick. Yet, we would not discourage its use, for if, as we believe, it possesses very little medicinal power, while Allopaths prescribe it, they will omit drugs that would be really injurious; yet one, we notice, has already advised the *Red precipitate of mercury* to be united with it; and another, mixes the oil with the tincture of *Belladonna*. Who can tell in these prescriptions, what the oil accomplishes? No one. There is science! Allopathic science! there is wisdom! Allopathic wisdom!

## G L O N O I N E.

Friday, May, 4th, 1849.—Thermometer 80°; pulse, 80 per min. Half-past 4 o'clock P. M., took 6 pellets of Glonoine. In five minutes after felt a slight heating in the face; this was followed by a painless throbbing in the head, beneath the os frontis, and extending entirely across the temples; throbbing in the head now so violent that the pulse could be counted by it. Pulse, 110; nausea, accompanied by congestion of brain and lungs, came on, and rapidly increased in severity; very pale in the face; oppression on chest so great as to cause deep and difficult breathing; a slight feeling of weakness in arms and hands; partial deafness, followed by partial blindness, or rather, uncertainty or indistinctness of vision; sensation of fainting; pulse scarcely perceptible; sitting with head in hands, and elbows on knees; very profuse perspiration, especially on the face and chest, (so great as to make the surface of the body wet,) came on gradually and ameliorated the symptoms.

4 o'clock and 50 min. Congestion of brain and lungs nearly relieved; belched wind from the stomach; nausea almost entirely gone.

5 o'clock. A slight throbbing headache commenced and continued with intermissions for about 3 hours; occasional spells of nausea, with slight but continued congestion of brain till midnight.

Took 2 Allopathic doses of Soda (Bi. Carb.) to cure nausea, without effect, though a single dose generally relieves such symptoms when I have them.

During the next morning a spell of nausea commenced, gradually increasing until relieved by perspiration similar to that of the previous day.

The above symptoms of Glonoine were furnished us by Mr. Henry Hupfield, of Baltimore, Md., for which he will please accept our thanks.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Henry Hupfield, of Baltimore, Md., for fifteen new subscribers for Vol. 5, of this Journal. Also to Dr. W. E. Payne, of Bath, Me., for the interest he has taken in the prosperity of this periodical. We are sure that a list of five thousand could be secured in a few weeks if the friends of Homœopathy would exert themselves a little.



## MEDICAL EDUCATION.

Letters are almost daily received at this office, commending in strong terms the principle adopted by the Hahnemann Academy, on the subject of Medical Education. We have room only for two extracts. A medical friend writes from Geneva, N. Y., March 11th, 1850, and says:

"A day or two since I got my hand upon the last number of the Journal, and was, I must confess, astonished to see the course pursued by Drs. Joslin & Co., in reference to the Hahnemann Academy. I am quite sure they will have little sympathy among good Homœopaths abroad. The peculiar features of the Academy are correct and such as should long since have marked the American systems of medical education. It is certainly in keeping with the spirit and forms of the other Institutions of science and literature in our country. Any man can receive his A. B., or A. M., at our literary colleges, by showing himself qualified upon examination in the branches laid down in the college course; even though he had never seen a college *building*.

The plan of the Hahnemann Academy is liberal and such as will undoubtedly meet the approbation of the public. These *exclusive* establishments are decidedly behind the age. I shall use my best endeavors to gain friends to it."

Dr. C. Hering, of Philadelphia, under date of 7th inst. writes to us, and in reference to the Hahnemann Academy says: "I accept your *diploma* of membership with more pleasure than I ever received one. I not only agree with you, but my whole heart and soul is with you. That is the way and the only way to promote our great cause. Homœopathic students ought to be instructed according to a new plan, in accordance with the character of our school. They ought to be free, not bound like apprentices to six or seven instructors, to attend on stated lectures, and to be forced to pay for what cannot but be almost disgusting to them, if they have any sense at all. It should be a great object to effect a thorough reform in medical education. Let students of medicine be emancipated. Go on, go ahead, like the miners in Saxony, while one party rests the other party is working, day and night, the whole week, year after year.

If you desire it I will send you my views on medical education."

We should be most happy to receive a paper from Dr. Hering on that subject for the next number of the Journal. Our colleague, we hope, will excuse us for the liberty we have taken as above, with his seemingly private letter; but such truthful remarks ought not to be concealed.

The plan of the Hahnemann Academy will induce many to engage in the business of teaching, and as in other things where there is competition, so in this, new and improved methods of communicating instruction in medicine and surgery will be developed, which, together with a fair and thorough examination for the degree of doctor in medicine, will secure to the people a class of practitioners truly learned in their profession, which is not the case under existing medical institutions.

We intended to present a plan in this number of the Journal for a thorough organization of the Homœopathic school of this State, so that each member of the school might be placed in a position to make his labor and influence tell to the promotion of our great cause, as well as to protect the people from unqualified practitioners of our art. But we are compelled, for want of room, to defer the subject for the April number.

*A New Method of Detecting Arsenic in the Viscera and in Organic Substances.* By M. LASSAIGNE.—M. J. Lassaigne boils the substance suspected to contain arsenic in a mixture of sulphuric and nitric acids, slightly diluted with water: the resulting liquid contains all the arsenic present, and has not the usual viscosity of the fluid matters to be tested. Solid matters may be tested in the following manner: Having been divided into small pieces, they are boiled in concentrated sulphuric acid, until incipient carbonization takes place; then, when cool, concentrated nitric acid in excess is added to the carbonized mass, and the mixture is boiled until the nitric acid is entirely decomposed. The residue is diluted with from five to six times its volume of distilled water; it is then filtered and Marsh's test applied.

A weight of sulphuric and nitric acids, equal to the weight of the substances requiring analysis, is considered by M. Lassaigne to be the suitable proportion. This method M. Lassaigne has found to be completely successful in separating arsenic from even the smallest quantities of organic matter.—*Med. Gaz., from Journal de Chimie Medicale.*



## NOTICE.

One more number will complete the 4th volume of this Journal. We are not of those who bestow fulsome praise on subscribers. They have been furnished with the best efforts of our mind, both in original and selected matter, and we believe each subscriber will have received his dollar's worth. The American Journal of Homœopathy, from its commencement, has relied upon its merits for the approbation of the profession and of the public. It is not nor never shall be, while in our hands, the organ of a clique or party; its object is to seek and propagate a true healing art. Therefore if its merits will not command the co-operation of the profession then let it cease to exist; but thus far it has been sustained, and numerous orders have come in lately for entire sets; and such is the zeal of a few kind friends they have sent us the money for the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th volumes; we wish those who owe us for the 1st, 2d and 3d volumes would have zeal enough to remit what is due. These delinquent friends of ours perhaps ought not to be blamed, for occasionally one writes that he has been so fully occupied in professional duties that he has not had the time to enclose a dollar in a letter, but he cannot do without the Journal, and if it is continued he will try to find time to send the money.

Under the conviction that no periodical is better adapted to spread a knowledge of Homœopathy, we do hope our colleagues all over these United States will consider that their interest is involved in extending the circulation of this Journal as much as possible. It is our desire to enlarge it to twenty-four pages for the same price, for we begin to be so overrun with matter that an enlarged outlet is much needed. The present subscription list will not warrant this improvement, and we do not intend to undertake what we cannot safely accomplish, but if every Homœopathic physician will subscribe and do what he can to secure his lay friends who take an interest in our science, and will do this without delay, the first number of the fifth volume shall appear on the 1st of May next with twenty-four pages.

The Homœopathic school is engaged in an important reform; the opposition is strong and violent, and we take leave to say, that every member of the school is in duty bound to exert himself in all suitable ways to remove the popular errors of the people on the subject of medicine, and also to induce as many physicians as possible to study Homœopathia. Therefore, as one of the means to accomplish this end, circulate cheap publications; a few dollars expended in this way yearly by each one of us, would not only be a public benefit but be promotive of private interest.

**A Medical Partner Wanted,**

By a physician residing in the immediate vicinity of New-York. The most favorable terms will be offered to a thoroughly educated and experienced Homœopathic physician. None other need apply.

✉ Post PAID Communications to S. S. G., Brooklyn, will be promptly answered.

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Doctor Davis has just opened his establishment, and trusts that Physicians of the West will respond to his efforts to meet their wants, by sending in their orders; he assures them that all his articles are of the most reliable quality, and at prices offering inducements to deal with him. Nearly all his medicines are from the Central Leipzig Pharmacy.

Dr. D. intends to keep all the Books, and the Medicines in their various forms of Tinctures, Triturations and Dilutions; also corks, labels, vials, sugar of milk, globules, pocket cases, &c.

Family Medicine Chests with Books to correspond in great variety, to suit the taste and means of all.

Dr. H. F. Davis, 125 Main Street, Cincinnati, is our Agent for this Journal. Subscriptions paid to him will be duly acknowledged.

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V. B. PALMER, *Tribune Buildings, New York City*, is hereby authorized to receive subscriptions for this Journal. Also, ANGELL & ENGEL, *Printers, No. 1 Spruce-street, New York City*.

Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.



# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

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AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

NEW-YORK, APRIL, 1850.

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

**PREAMBLE.**—We, the subscribers, Practitioners of Medicine, residing in the city of New-York and its vicinity, believing the law propounded by Hahnemann, "*similia similibus curantur*," to be a fundamental truth in the theory of medicine, and the only safe guide in its practice;

And further believing that the best mode of ascertaining the effects of drugs is by provings upon the healthy organism, and that there is efficacy in attenuated remedies, do agree to form an Association under the following Constitution.

### CONSTITUTION.

**ART. I. Name and Object.** § 1. This Association shall be styled "**THE HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.**"

§ 2. Its object shall be the advancement of the Healing Art by mutual consultation and by public and private teaching.

**ART. II. Of Members.** § 1. Any physician residing in the city of New-York or its vicinity,

having received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or a Diploma of Licence to practise according to the laws of this State, may be elected a member of the Academy, by the votes of a majority of those present at a stated meeting.

§ 2. Physicians residing elsewhere may be elected Honorary or Corresponding Members, but shall be entitled to no voice in the management of the Academy; and those resident members who shall cease to reside in the city of New-York or its vicinity, shall on their removal, become Corresponding Members.

§ 3. Every member of the Academy shall have the right to teach the Science of Medicine, or any of its branches in its name, upon complying with such uniform Regulations as shall be incorporated in the By-Laws.

**ART. III. Of Officers.** § 1. The officers of the Academy shall be a President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and three Trustees, who shall be elected from the resident members annually, upon the first Wednesday of December, by a majority of the votes of those present.

§ 2. The officers named in the preceding Section shall constitute a Board of Trustees, or Executive Council, whose duty it shall be to receive and hold the property belonging to the Academy, to make an Annual Report of their proceedings, including a detailed statement of the accounts, to convene Special Meetings, to examine candidates for the certificate of the Academy, and to perform such other duties as may be imposed upon them.

§ 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Academy, and shall preserve order in its proceedings according to received Parliamentary Rules.—The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President, and in case of a vacancy in that office, shall perform the duties thereof, until the next succeeding election.

§ 4. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Academy under its direction, and shall have charge of its archives.

§ 5. The Recording Secretary shall attend the meetings of the Academy, and keep an accurate record of its proceedings.

§ 6. The officers of the Academy shall perform such other duties appropriate to their

respective offices, as by vote shall be devolved upon them.—Vacancies in the offices occurring by resignation, removal, or death, may be filled by an election, to be held at a stated meeting, notice of such election having been given at the preceding stated meeting.

ART. IV. *Miscellaneous.* § 1. Stated Meetings shall be held at least once a month.

§ 2. By-Laws not inconsistent with this Constitution may be enacted by the Academy, and shall not be repealed or altered unless notice of such intended repeal or alteration shall have been given at three stated meetings immediately preceding action thereon.

§ 3. This Constitution can only be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of all the members present at the annual meeting appointed for the election of officers, and provided notice of such proposed alteration or amendment shall have been given at three successive stated meetings, immediately prior to such election.

#### BY-LAWS.

ART. I. *Of Organization.* § 1. It shall be the duty of the first Executive Council as soon as convenient after their election, to take the steps required by the Act of the Legislature of the State of New-York, entitled "An Act for the Incorporation of benevolent, charitable, scientific, and missionary Societies," passed April 12, 1848, for the purpose of constituting the Academy an incorporated body in law.

§ 2. They shall also devise and procure a common seal, have the custody thereof, and affix the same to the official acts of the Academy.

ART. II. *Of Members.* § 1. Candidates for membership may be proposed by any resident member at any stated meeting, and if the proposal be seconded, shall be ballotted for at the stated meeting succeeding. The Secretary shall record in the minutes the names of the proposer and seconder, as well as of the candidate.

§ 2. No person shall be entitled to the privileges of a resident member, until he shall have signed the Constitution, and paid an initiation fee of Five Dollars, and unless this be done within six months after being notified of his election, the same shall be considered void.

§ 3. The presiding officer shall address every member elect on his being introduced to the Academy, shall read the Preamble of the Constitution, and demand of him, if he agree thereto, to which the member elect shall reply, that he does, and he shall then be permitted to sign the Constitution.

§ 4. There shall be due and payable from each resident member to the Academy on the first Wednesday of December in every year, as annual dues, the sum of one dollar, and the sum of fifty cents additional, for every stated meeting from which he shall have been absent, during the year preceding. No excuse shall be receivable for absence, and the min-

utes of the Academy shall be conclusive as to presence or absence.

These provisions do not apply to special or adjourned meetings.

§ 5. Any member whose dues or fines unpaid shall amount to the sum of ten dollars or more, may be notified of the fact by the Executive Council, and after being so notified, shall be liable at any stated meeting, to be suspended from the privilege of a member.

§ 6. The Executive Council are authorized, in addition to the above steps, to proceed at law to collect dues and fines from delinquent members, in the name of the Academy.

ART. III. *Of Meetings.* § 1. Stated meetings of the Academy shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month at such place in the city of New-York as shall be determined by the Executive Council. If the business of the meeting be not concluded, it may be adjourned to any day not beyond the next stated meeting.

§ 2. Special meetings may be convened by the Executive Council at their discretion, and shall also be called for any time specified in a written request addressed to the President by five resident members.

§ 3. Nine resident members shall be required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. IV. *Of Order.* § 1. The presiding officer shall preserve order in the meetings of the Academy according to received Parliamentary Rules.

§ 2. The following shall be the order of business:

1. Approval of the minutes of the preceding meeting.
2. Ballotting for members and introduction of members elect.
3. Reports of the Council or of Committees.
4. Reading of papers.
5. Miscellaneous business.
6. Informal conversation on scientific subjects.
7. Reading of the minutes for correction.
8. Adjournment.

§ 3. The above order may at any time be suspended on motion, by the vote of a majority present.

§ 4. Papers read before the Academy become its property and are to be deposited in its archives, but no paper shall be published as part of the transactions of the Academy without an express resolution to that effect.

ART. V. *Of Officers.* § 1. The President shall deliver an inaugural address before the Academy on the second Wednesday of January in each year. The Executive Council may invite such persons, not members, to attend, as they may deem expedient.

§ 2. The Corresponding Secretary shall record copies of all his letters, and shall preserve on file all letters received by him. He



shall notify honorary and corresponding members of their election.

§ 3. The Recording Secretary shall procure a book in which shall be engrossed the Constitution of the Academy which shall be signed by all the resident members. He shall also cause the By-Laws to be inserted in a book for convenient reference, and shall keep a roll of names, residences, and dates of admission of the honorary, corresponding, and resident members. He shall notify resident members of their election, and shall give notice through the post-office or otherwise of special meetings. He shall insert in the minutes of each meeting, a list of members present, and in the minutes of every stated meeting, also a list of those resident members who are absent, which list shall be conclusive after the approval of the minutes at the next stated meeting.

§ 4. The Executive Council shall on the first Wednesday of December in every year make a report of their proceedings to the Academy with a detailed statement of the financial condition thereof. They shall make a similar report whenever required by two-thirds of the members present at a stated meeting.

§ 5. It shall be their duty to provide a room for the meeting of the Academy, to make arrangements for the delivery of the inaugural address of the President, and of other addresses ordered by the Academy, and to superintend its teaching department.

ART. VI. *Of Teaching.* § 1. Any member of the Academy, proposing to teach medicine, its allied sciences, or any branch thereof, and desiring to do so in the name of the Academy, shall deliver to the Executive Council or to one of them, at least three months previous to the commencement of his proposed lectures, a notice in writing of such his intention, accompanied by a syllabus of each of his proposed lectures. No member of the Executive Council shall be allowed to teach unless requested so to do by a special vote of the Academy.

§ 2. It shall be the duty of the Council at least two months before the commencement of each term of the Academy, to prepare, publish, and distribute a programme of the different lectures to be delivered during the term, the hours and places at which they are to be delivered, and the names of the lecturers. Such programme shall include every course of lectures of which a syllabus shall have been delivered to the Council, and they shall be stated without distinction to be lectures delivered under the direction of the Academy. The Council shall have the power to require that the statement of the subject proposed to be lectured upon shall agree with the syllabus delivered to them.

§ 3. It shall be the duty of the Council to give to any person, having obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine, or a license to practise according to the laws of this state, on his complying with the provisions hereinafter

stated, a certificate under their hands and under the seal of the Academy, stating in substance that the person named therein had been examined as to his qualifications for a physician and surgeon, and was considered by the Academy as a proper and competent person to practise medicine.

§ 4. The candidate shall apply to the Executive Council, and on exhibiting his diploma or license and paying the sum of five dollars, shall receive an order for Examination.

Such order shall contain the names of three or more members of the Academy (of whom at least one shall be a member of the Council) with a statement of the branches upon which the candidate is to be examined by each of the examiners named therein.

§ 5. Upon presentation of such order he shall be examined by the persons and on the subjects named therein. A complete record of the Examination shall be kept in writing, and if the candidate desire it, it shall be done by a secretary appointed for that purpose by the Examiners, and when concluded, shall be attested by the Examiners, the Secretary, and the candidate, and returned by the Examiners with their report to the Executive Council, to be by them deposited in the archives of the Academy. Any member of the profession shall have the right to attend the Examination.

§ 6. Upon a favorable report of three Examiners, the Executive Council may issue to the applicant the certificate provided for in section third of this article.

§ 7. If the report be not signed by three Examiners, or if the Council refuse to issue the certificate, the candidate may at any stated meeting of the Academy within six months thereafter present his appeal in writing from such decision. The Academy shall thereupon proceed to review such decision upon the record of examination, and may, by a vote of two-thirds of those present, direct the Council to issue a certificate or order a new examination.

§ 8. The fee for the certificate shall be ten dollars.

## COMMUNICATION.

EAST BOSTON, March 27, 1850.

About the 15th of February, the smallpox appeared in the neighboring village of Chelsea. It was, so far as I can learn, confined to two blocks of buildings, divided by a narrow street and occupied by about seventy-five families, operatives in the Glendon Rolling Mills, all foreigners.

As more than the ordinary number proved fatal cases, I propose to give as briefly as possible some of the peculiarities attending them, that others may avoid the same errors. There were in all twenty-seven cases. Of this number, nine cases were attended by other medical gentlemen (Allopaths); six of this number died. I attended the remaining eighteen cases, and lost three. From my former experience

in smallpox, I had looked upon it "as a disease which should no longer excite any uneasiness." (C. Hering.)

1st. Boy aged sixteen, apparently strong and healthy. When I first saw him, he had been sick with the usual symptoms of fever about two days—skin hot and dry; pain in head, back, and region of the stomach, severe. Although I suspected variola, yet, as the parents positively assured me that he had had the smallpox before, I gave Aconite 6, 3 glob. every 3 hours, till 4 doses were taken. I then left Tart. Antimony to be given in same way till I saw him. Next day, some eruptions appeared about face and neck, but of a pale, sickly color; oppressed breathing; difficult deglutition; mouth and throat filled with viscid, tough phlegm; pain and tenderness in umbilical region—Merc. Viv. 3, alternate with Sulphur 6, every two hours. I saw the patient next morning, when I found him dying. I was shown two chambers, filled with blood and water, and learned that he had passed all that amount since 12 o'clock, midnight, *from the bladder*.

2d. The other two fatal cases were so nearly alike, that the history of one will answer for both. They were children 1 1-2 years old—precursory fever light. Instead of an eruption, dark-colored spots or petechia appeared on several parts. On what would have been the first day of the eruption, blisters or large vesicles appeared, filled with dark-colored fluid. In one of the cases a few pustules appeared on the arms and partly filled with lymph, and the other a patch on the lower limb also looked more healthy. The brain was oppressed; deep, sonorous breathing; difficult to wake to consciousness; skin cool; deglutition difficult; bowels not disturbed. One died on what should have been the second and the other the third day of the eruption. Tart. Ant., Opium, Ars., and Rhus were used, and in one of the cases Sulphur.

Three cases of tardy eruption, with congestion to the chest, were speedily relieved by Tart. Antimony.

One case, a girl fifteen years old, presented no unusual appearances till the third day of the eruption, when she was attacked with diarrhœa with considerable tenesmus and stools streaked with blood. Pustules looked pale and depressed; much pain and soreness in the throat. Sulphur 9, 3 globules every two hours soon relieved these symptoms.

One case, a girl aged fourteen, showed some of the Typhoid symptoms, such as dark-colored spots and blisters, with delirium in the last or desiccatory stage, but she recovered under the use of Ars. and Bell.

The first observation I have to offer on the above cases is, that hæmaturia in the first stage of smallpox is to me a new feature, and in any stage to so large an extent as was presented in case No. 1. Again that petechia and typhoid symptoms should be so prominent in the early stages as in cases No. 2 is also new to me.

As to the treatment, I feel quite dissatisfied. I think the Aconite, in case No. 1, positively injurious. (I ought to have given Bryonia.) I now think very few cases of smallpox require Aconite, (and may we not say the same of all exanthemata?) as our object is not to depress the vital forces of the system. I have not used it in any case since the above result. I also think in the two cases No. 2, I should have given gentle stimulants as dietetic auxiliaries, but I doubt whether any treatment could have saved either of those cases. I gave the Vaccinum in several cases, and I thought with much amelioration of the symptoms.

JOHN HAWKS, M. D.

## THE HEALTH OFFICER OF NEW-YORK.

Dr. A. SIDNEY DOANE has been appointed Health Officer by the Governor and Senate of this State. With the political aspect of this appointment we have nothing to say; but the excitement among the members of the New-York Academy of Medicine calls for a passing notice.

Some two or three years ago, at some risk, as we thought at the time, we styled that Academy a medico-political party, and recent developments show that we were correct. We always believed that the cultivation of medical science, as the main object of the Academy, was a hypocritical announcement, and now it turns out that in this, too, we were not mistaken.

In regard to Dr. Doane, the new Health Officer, we have had the honor of his acquaintance for more than 20 years; he is one of the learned of the profession; of acknowledged superior talents; of great industry and perseverance; and for liberality of feelings and views, and a uniform gentlemanly deportment, none excel him. Dr. Doane, we wish it understood, is not a homœopath, but to his honor be it recorded, although strongly solicited, he refused to join the New-York Academy of Medicine, and this is the head and front of his offending. He has not hesitated to denounce that body as worthy the contempt and scorn of every honorable-minded member of the profession and community. This was a mortal offence, in the estimation of the Academy. Another most mortifying fact is, that Dr. Doane is a popular man, very much so, with every one except the Academy men. He has been in their way, and has finally achieved a triumph in securing the lucrative appointment of Health Officer, which



the Academy gentlemen intended for one of their own number. And not only one place is lost thereby, but some dozen other places are under the control of Dr. Doane, which he no doubt will fill with worthy physicians, but not of the Academy.

A letter by Dr. Alexander H. Stevens appeared in the Herald of April 1st, 1850, protesting against Dr. Doane for the above office, although at the time of its publication the nomination had been confirmed by the Senate. This letter is, as the Herald says, "a very curious letter;" our first thought was that it resembled the outpourings of an angry, crying child, when it could not have its own way. We do not intend, by any manner of means, to attempt a criticism of it, for, in a mercantile phrase, "it won't pay." Dr. S. says he has written and published the letter "without seeking counsel from any individual whomsoever." And we believe him; for there is ample internal evidence that it is Dr. Stevens' own.

Dr. S. believes in the contagious nature of the cholera, and he suspects Dr. Doane does not agree with him in this; and therefore he tells our citizens they may expect ship-loads of cholera will come up to the city next summer by the express permission of Dr. D. The object in all this is to stir up an alarm among our citizens, for already, before the writing of the letter under consideration, Dr. S. has our population and himself "trembling with apprehension of another invasion of cholera."

We wish it understood that we do not think Dr. S.'s unconnected, badly composed, and exceedingly weak production, will do much if any harm to any one. Therefore Dr. Doane may hold his place, and our citizens cease their "trembling apprehension," for any intelligent man among us knows just as much about the contagious nature of cholera, and whether it will be among us next Summer, as Dr. Stevens.

### CROCUS SATIVUS.

REMARKS BY DR. CHAPMAN.

THIS remedy has been used by him chiefly for uterine hemorrhage, and in a case of epistaxis. It seems to be a medicine of great promise in some forms of mental disease. He has had no opportunity of trying it, but one of his friends, now unhappily in seclusion, had for several years before the paroxysm of insanity, which ended in the obscuration of his intellect, amounting to imbecility, several of

the symptoms for which *Crocus* is remarkable. In the midst of serious conversation on business, in his own family, on the exchange, in his counting-house, at church, (though he was a sincerely pious man,) he would have fits of immoderate laughter, for which he could not in any way account. The laughter was foolish, improper, immoderate, indecent, depriving him of the power of articulation for a considerable time; tears would flow down his eyes as in streams. It was a convulsion of laughter. In other respects he was well. A son of this gentleman, now at college, has from boyhood been affected in the same manner, laughing immoderately, indecently, unaccountably, on the gravest occasions, and getting himself into all manner of scrapes through this strange habit. Taking this as the characteristic symptom, in connection with the remainder of the picture of mental disorder, exhibited in the pathogenesis of *crocus*, it cannot fail to be a valuable remedy in the treatment of mental affections.

It would be a very important measure to have a retreat for the homœopathic treatment of those suffering from nervous and mental disorders. It is believed that many of those who are now considered incurable might be cured, if the proper homœopathic treatment were added to the excellent system of Hygiene, which is adopted by most of those now engaged in treating this class of patients.

Of the extraordinary effects of subtle medicinal influences on the deeper functions of the human organism, there are so many instances on record, as to warrant our confident belief that these influences in the right amount, rightly directed, would have the most beneficial action on what are called mental diseases. It is believed that, after a few generations, what is called the hereditary tendency to such affections might be entirely overcome. While on this subject, though the cases bear no direct relation to *crocus*, it may be very interesting to the psychological student to see how the principle of life—the mind—call it what you will—is influenced by medicinal agents, especially of the narcotic kind, acting even only on the air-passages of the patient.

Mr. H. embarked on board of a sloop in one of the ports of Cuba. He went to sleep in the cabin, which was full of large packages, but was harassed by wild and frightful dreams, and suddenly awaked about midnight, bathed in a cold dew, and totally unable to speak or move. He knew, however, perfectly where he was, and recollected everything that had occurred the preceding day; he could not make any bodily effort whatever, and tried in vain to get up or change his position. The Watch on deck struck *four bells*, and he counted them, though it seemed to him he did not hear the beats, but received the vibration through his body. About this time a seaman came into the cabin with a light, and carried away an hour-glass without observing the sufferer. Shortly after a pane of glass was broken in the skylight, and he saw the frag-



ments of glass drop on the floor. These circumstances, which really occurred, are mentioned to show that Mr. H. experienced real sensations, and was not still under the influence of perturbed dreams. His inability to move was not accompanied by any pain or uneasiness, but he felt as if the principle of life had entirely departed from his frame. At length he became totally insensible, and continued so till an increase of the wind made the sea a little rough, which caused the vessel to roll. The motion, he supposes, had the effect of awakening him from his trance, and he contrived somehow or other to get up and go on deck. His memory was totally lost for about a quarter of an hour: he knew that he was in a ship, but nothing more. While in this state he observed a man drawing water from the sea in buckets, and requested him to pour one on his head. On the seaman's doing so, all his faculties were immediately restored, and he acquired a most vivid recollection of a vast variety of ideas and events which appeared to have passed through his mind, and to have occupied him during the time of his supposed insensibility. All this singular constitutional derangement had arisen from a copious inhalation of the fumes of tobacco: the packages in the cabin were full of that narcotic; the sloop was laden with it. — *Howison's "Foreign Scenes."*

Mr. Howison, who has described his own case, goes on to say: — "I should not have been so particular in noticing these circumstances had I not heard something analogous to them from a German oculist, whom I met with in Havana. The old man observed that Digitalis, Belladonna, and other plants of a similar kind, possessed peculiar properties, which were not generally known even by the medical profession. 'When administered,' he said, 'in a peculiar way, they could be made to act so powerfully and directly as sedatives, as to destroy all sensibility and voluntary motion, without affecting the animal life, or impeding its necessary action and function; but with this peculiarity, that the mind or soul did not participate in the *comatoseness* that affected its mortal tenement, but was more than usually active and excursive. On these occasions,' he said, 'the individual under such narcotic influence, had at the time no perception of the mental activity. His body had an animal existence, without sensation, and nothing more. But when the effect of the narcotic was dispelled either by any counter agency or by time, the patient recovered from his lethargy; and active life, memory, will, and intelligence returned, with a perfect knowledge of all the operations and employments which his mind had gone through, from the moment of losing his perception to that of his reviving to the full consciousness of life.'"

The German gave his explanation of this strange condition, and then related to Mr. Howison the following case, which had come under his own observation.

"While in Germany, he had resided some months in a town which was the seat of one of the minor Universities. He had apartments in a lonely house at some distance from the suburbs. The occupants were the proprietors of the house — an old man and his wife — and in addition to himself, a medical student, who lived in a very retired and singular manner. Mr. Engel (the relater of the case) and the medical student boarded as well as lodged with the old couple, so that a certain degree of intimacy grew up between them. Engel quickly discovered that his acquaintance was no common character. In him reserved manners and a melancholy deportment were combined with a wildness and extravagance of ideas that sometimes approximated to madness. His conversation was abrupt, and had nothing of common-place; for he never talked except when urged to do so by some emotion; and he often made dark allusions, and expressed thoughts of such a mysterious and startling nature, that they seemed almost superhuman. He evidently avoided society as much as possible, never going into town except to attend the lectures, and always returning home as soon as they were over.

"In addition to his apartments in the house he had engaged for his exclusive use a small detached building, about twenty yards off. He kept the key of this place, and never allowed any one to enter it. But he shut himself up regularly in it at an early hour on a certain night every week, and remained in seclusion till the middle of the following day; when he came forth he was always ghastly, haggard, and dejected. But, notwithstanding, he never failed to commence writing very busily, continuing to do for several hours together. He then seemed relieved, and resumed his usual habits and appearance till the mysterious evening returned.

"Engel's curiosity was excited, and the more so as his companion showed every disinclination to gratify it, and repelled his hints and inquiries in the most decided manner. He also felt an interest in the young man, who was evidently in a declining state of health, and very unhappy. He had once, too, caught a glimpse of the interior of the out-building, and had seen in it a board placed against the wall in a sloping direction, and clamped at its lower end so as to prevent its sliding forward. There was also a large trough full of water, and a number of phials and some chemical apparatus.

"One night, when the student was in his mysterious apartment, Engel was impelled by irresistible curiosity to ascertain how his friend was employed. The windows were too high to enable him to see what was passing within the room, but he contrived to climb up the wall, and to obtain a view of the interior of the apartment. It was lighted by one lamp, which hung from the roof, and the form of the student was stretched on the board already mentioned. He looked pale, stiff, and ghastly;



his eyes, though only half-closed, being dim and fixed in their sockets. Engel thought him dying or dead, and his first impulse was to force open the door, and hasten to his assistance; but on observing things more attentively, he became almost convinced, from the state of the apartment, and the position of his friend, that his insensibility was the effect of design. He therefore continued to watch the body, which exhibited no symptoms of life, though the faint flickering of the lamp sometimes almost deceived him into the idea that it moved, and that the countenance began to acquire animation. After waiting some time longer, Engel withdrew and went to bed. The day advanced to noon without the student's appearing, but at last he entered the house hurriedly, went into his own chamber, and shut himself in.

"The week following Engel forced a way through one of the windows into the apartment, when his friend was again in his state of death-semblance. On approaching the body, he found the surface cold, the pulsation of the heart scarcely perceptible, and the breathing very feeble and protracted. Engel could not withdraw as the door was locked and the key removed; and the face of the wall so smooth that he could not climb it so as to escape through the window. He was thus a prisoner in that strange room with its strange occupant.

"The midnight hour, the loneliness of the place, the mysterious condition of his friend, and the ghastly appearance of his body, as seen by the glimmering of a dim and unsteady light, excited an undefined awe and apprehension. He wished his friend to revive, yet he almost feared to encounter him, conscious as he was of having acted the spy, and viewed him in the situation which he evidently desired should be a secret one.

"In trying to trim the lamp, Engel contrived to extinguish the light. Some hours after the student began to give signs of returning animation. Engel heard a succession of deep-drawn sighs, and soon after saw his friend raise himself up, and lean his head on his hand. He gradually gained his erect position, and staggered across the room, and the next moment a loud plunge took place. He arose from the bath in a state of complete resuscitation, and appeared for the first time to observe that the lamp was extinguished. Seizing a tinder-box, he struck a light, and Engel stood disclosed before him. His astonishment was great, but it soon yielded to displeasure, and he demanded angrily to what cause he owed such an untimely visit. Engel dealt sincerely with him, confessed his curiosity, and explained the manner of his ingress. His friend was appeased. 'Why,' said he, after a short pause, 'should I refuse to explain the scene you have just witnessed, for it has nothing of guilt in it? I am only sacrificing my health and life to intellectual enjoyments; and health and life may surely be used at

pleasure by one so disunited from the world as I am. You must know that some years ago I accidentally discovered that certain plants possess peculiar powers over the mind and body, emancipating the former, as it were, from the thralldom of the latter, and enabling those who employ them to enter, for a time, into an existence almost purely spiritual. You see on that table various preparations of Hemlock, Fox-glove, Deadly Nightshade, and other narcotic herbs. I am in the habit of occasionally using these to produce the effects I have described, and you have recently seen me under their influence. It would be impossible now to go into particulars, but you must be convinced from what you observed while I lay on that platform, that my body was then the seat of the simplest powers of life only—in short, that my spiritual part had fled, or at least lost all sympathy or connection with my corporeal. At present I have no recollection of any thing during that period, but a short time hence a flood of ideas and images of the most vivid and wonderful description will rush upon my mind. Many of my experiences of this sort I have entered in a book, with the contents of which I may, perhaps, one day make you acquainted. I will tell you more when we next meet, but in the mean time I wish to be left alone.'"

Very soon after this the poor student was found dead in his mysterious apartment, stretched on the board: he had fallen a victim to his love of experimental philosophy, and of imaginative existence. The manuscripts, containing his experiences of his unnatural and induced state of being, could not be found.

It is hoped that this case will not be deemed irrelevant to the point in question, the influence with which certain substances are endowed for acting on the more noble, subtle, and mysterious parts of our complicated being. Such influence may be used in the curative, as well as in the destroying direction. The case of this German student may remind the reader of that of Colonel Townshend, recorded by Dr. Cheyne; though the Colonel could bring on the suspended animation without the use of narcotics.

The case is so very interesting that it may be introduced in this place. Dr. Cheyne thus relates it:

"Colonel Townshend, a gentleman of honor and integrity, had for many years been afflicted with a nephritic complaint. His illness increasing, and his strength decaying, he came from Bristol to Bath in a litter, in autumn, and lay at the Bell Inn. Dr. Baynard and I (Dr. Cheyne) were called to him, and attended twice a day, but his vomiting continuing still incessant and obstinate against all remedies, we despaired of his recovery. While he was in this condition, he sent for us one morning; we waited on him with Mr. Skrine, his apothecary. We found his senses clear, and his mind calm. His nurse and several servants were about him. He told us he sent for us to

give us an account of an odd sensation he had for some time observed, and felt in himself, which was that, composing himself, he could die or expire when he pleased, and yet by an effort, or somehow, he could come to life again; which he had sometimes tried before he sent to us. We heard this with surprise; but as it was not to be accounted for from common principles, we could hardly believe the fact as he related it, much less give an account of it, unless he should please to make the experiment before us, which we were unwilling he should do, lest in his weak condition he should carry it too far. He continued to talk very distinctly and sensibly above a quarter of an hour about the surprising sensation, and insisted so much on our seeing the trial made that at last we were forced to comply.

"We all three felt his pulse first—it was distinct, though small and thready; and his heart had its usual beating. He composed himself on his back, and lay in a still posture for some time. While I held his right hand, Dr. Baynard laid his hand on his heart, and Mr. Skrine held a clean looking-glass to his mouth. I found his pulse sink gradually, till at last I could not feel any by the most exact and nice touch. Dr. B. could not feel the least motion in his heart; nor Mr. Skrine perceive the least soil on the bright mirror he held to his mouth. Then each of us, by turns, examined his arm, heart, and breath, but could not by the nicest scrutiny discover the least symptom of life in him. We reasoned a long time about this odd appearance as well as we could, all of us judging it inexplicable and unaccountable; and finding he still continued in that condition, we began to conclude that he had indeed carried the experiment too far, and at last were satisfied that he was actually dead, and were just ready to leave him. This continued about half an hour. As we were going away, we observed some motion about his body; and upon examination, found his pulse, and the motion of his heart, gradually returning; he began to breathe gently and speak softly. We were all astonished to the last degree at this unexpected change, and after some further conversation with him, and among ourselves, went away fully satisfied as to all the particulars of this fact, but confounded and puzzled, and not able to form any rational scheme that might account for it. He expired between five and six o'clock that evening."—*British Journal of Homœopathy*.

### HOMŒOPATHIC HOSPITAL IN LONDON.

THE British Homœopathic Association have resolved to establish a Homœopathic Hospital; a general meeting for that purpose was held in London on the evening of the 22d of August last, which was numerously attended. MAR-

MADUKE B. SAMPSON, Esq., presided, and delivered an able address adapted to the occasion; among other things he said:

In the promulgation and advocacy of every new truth, there are three things that are essential. Firstly: We must clearly state our doctrine, and the nature of the phenomena on which it is based. Secondly: We must publish all the testimony that can be collected. And lastly: We must furnish means by which all those who are incapable of receiving conviction through the testimony of others, may at once resolve their doubts by personal observation.

As regards the first of these points, namely, the clear enunciation of our doctrine, nothing has been neglected. The association has, as has been observed in the report, issued thousands of volumes and tracts on the principles of the Homœopathic system, and, through the zeal of their honorary secretary, an extensive correspondence has been carried on with all who have applied for information. With respect to the second point, the statistical verification of our doctrine, everything that could be required has, in like manner, been performed; and on this head we may especially point to the 8,000 pamphlets which have been distributed, showing the results of the treatment in Cholera, and to the history of what was done in Ireland during the famine and pestilence of 1847. Of our three duties, then, the first and second have been completely fulfilled. It is in relation to the third that we shall find the call for our concluding labors. We have proclaimed our doctrine, and promulgated its evidences; but we have not yet established a direct means by which inquirers may satisfy themselves by personal observation, and without this our task is unfinished. Satisfactory as may be our reasoning, extensive as may be our evidence, still,—even though it be all collected in one mass, it leaves an opening, of which any one determined to resist conviction may avail himself to escape. The theory of our system may be admitted to be perfect, and its evidences may be acknowledged as having been prepared in good faith; but the world has seen so many ingenious theories—and more especially in medicine—turn out to be delusions, that, as a frequent experience of treachery will sometimes lead men to distrust all mankind in proportion to the fairness of their professions, so there are some who are rather deterred from than won to a new creed by the allegation, that in theory it is all that could be desired; while, in the next place, as regards its being supported by an overwhelming array of statistics, it is well known that such is the color in which men are apt to look at what they wish to be true, that, without any intention to deceive they often demonstrate the most erroneous doctrines by the most formidable array of figures. To distinguish sound reason from sophistry, and carefully-weighed statements from those which have been caught at credulously, requires a



clearness of vision which does not belong to the majority ; and hence the necessity for something more than theoretical arguments and elaborate statistics. The question then lies before us,—Is it in our power to supply what is thus wanting, and to put ourselves in a position to appeal to the world, whether we have not placed before all inquirers every means of satisfaction that can be demanded?

The only way in which this final satisfaction can be furnished, is by the establishment of a public hospital. It may be said, that incontrovertible evidence is daily presented to the medical mind by the multitudinous cures performed by Homœopathists in private practice. But this will not suffice. In the first place, the medical gentlemen by whom these cures are effected cannot blazon them, because they are interested parties. The only quarters, therefore, whence Homœopathic cures can be promulgated, must be from the patients themselves, and their friends. But non-professional persons can exercise in this way little or no weight upon medical men. So many enthusiastic individuals have been found at all times to proclaim the most wonderful virtues in nostrums which have struck their fancy, that it is not to be expected that merely isolated reports of remarkable recoveries should be received with full attention by professional persons, who, well aware not only of the common eagerness of the public to report marvels and to jump at conclusions, but also of the numberless instances in which even their own colleagues have been carried away by fancies as to the extraordinary and universal effects of new remedies. This reason, therefore, is quite sufficient to deter us from volunteering to professional men any statements of the kind ; and, if this were not enough, the ordinary rules of courtesy would alone prevent it, since for a layman to invite the attention of a medical practitioner to the facts of Homœopathy is simply to assume that he requires to be enlightened by comparatively unqualified persons on a point which comes peculiarly within the province of his own inquiries. It is plain, therefore, that in all cases of Homœopathic cures, the persons who are sure to be the last to hear of them are the medical gentlemen by whom the system is opposed.

It may be said, however, that as we have set forth our doctrine, it is the duty of all medical men to make trial of it for themselves. But this, again, will not hold, because we have no absolute right to demand of any one that he should put himself to trouble to ascertain the truth of anything we may assert, until we ourselves shall have done all that can be required of us. Now, when we ask a medical practitioner to try Homœopathy, and he replies that, in the first instance, he would rather look on, and observe the result of the treatment in experienced hands, we are almost totally without the power of complying with so reasonable a claim. We have no central place where a fair inquirer can attend, from day to day, conscientiously to verify our statements, and to qualify

himself by accurate observation before venturing upon experiments on his own account. And it is not alone that this fact is a hindrance to the progress of Homœopathy, but it is absolutely in the hands of an uncompromising opponent no slight argument against it. "Why have you no hospital?" will be the inquiry. "You boast of thousands of marvellous cures ; therefore, it is out of the question that a want of funds can be the cause. The gratitude of those who are treated under the old system maintains hospitals and dispensaries in every part of the world. There is no city in England, however small, without such an institution ; and it is plain, if you have conferred the benefits you profess, that in your case a far stronger spirit of thankfulness must bring abundant offerings for a similar purpose. Neither can a paucity of applicants for treatment constitute your excuse ; because, if your cures are so extensive, the fame of them must cause you to be besieged by those who have been discharged from other institutions without relief. What, then, is the inference. Obviously that you hesitate to bring your system to the final test, by which it must stand or fall?"

Shall we permit this reproach, or at once resolve that it shall exist no longer? Shall we, in short, finish our work, now we are within sight of the goal? There is no more imperative duty that we can perform, and it is not too much to say, that if we part this evening without entering earnestly upon it, we shall forego one of those high occasions that are only presented to those who faithfully seek for opportunities of usefulness, — opportunities which, seized upon with ardor, invariably open up for us still nobler callings, but which once neglected, never re-appear until by hard discipline we have learned their value.

There is, however, no need to apprehend that we shall hesitate. We have only to recognize the paramount dignity of our aim, and it will then be hard for us to turn aside. In the case of all ordinary appeals to benevolence, there are generally some circumstances to qualify the ardor with which we may respond to them. Nothing, for instance, at first sight, can seem more agreeable than to contribute to an hospital on the sole ground of establishing a gratuitous provision for the sick poor. But stern philosophy suggests the consideration that all provisions of this kind tend to weaken those feelings of prudence and self-reliance upon which our welfare as a people depends, and which can be stimulated only by the consciousness that we must, by our own economy and foresight, anticipate all the ordinary contingencies of life. In the present case, however, it is not on the mere principle of providing for the improvident that we are called to act, although in the existing stage of society, charity even of that kind cannot be dispensed with : but the object we primarily seek is to promulgate a new truth, upon the speedy reception of which the welfare of the whole human race depends. We seek to treat patients gratuitously, because



under no other circumstances could we convince them of our sincerity, or claim the right of exhibiting their treatment to medical inquiries; and if, conjointly with the service we thus render to the world, the subordinate, although to most persons more pleasing task of relieving individual want can be accomplished, we are enabled to combine a degree of satisfaction beyond all that could otherwise be offered.

In summing up the responsibilities before us, let us remember, moreover, that in spreading Homœopathy as we have done, we have given currency to a doctrine which, in proportion as it is novel and beautiful, will attract a host of ignorant and sordid men to make use of it, unless we take every care to insure that the increase of qualified practitioners shall be equal to the increase of converts among the public. A hospital capable of receiving pupils is the only means by which this can be effected.

If we are prepared, then, to undertake the work—the last one in connexion with Homœopathy, which, as non-professional persons, we can be called upon to perform—it only remains for us to appeal to our medical friends, who have this evening honored us with their presence, to know if they also are ready for their portion of the labor. To that question there will be but one answer, for none of us who are conversant with the history of Homœopathy can fail to be aware of the devoted and unselfish zeal that has been displayed by its practitioners—a zeal which, in so far as it springs from sympathy with human suffering and an ardent love of science, is happily characteristic of the medical profession, whether we speak of the practitioners of the old system or of the new, but which, in the latter case, we may believe to be heightened by the certainty of the blessings it is in their power to scatter. We shall hear, however, from their own lips, their opinions of what can be effected, and of what they require of us to enable them to bestow their skill and their benevolence where the harvest will be richest. We shall see that the effort demanded on our part will be but slight, and that it is upon them that the most arduous duty will necessarily fall. Let the cheerfulness with which they are prepared to undertake it, furnish a stimulus to our own enthusiasm.

Little further need be said, except that we should call to mind what has already been effected by our association, in order to appreciate the results of the combined action of a united body, at scarcely more than a nominal expense to each individual. The same system pursued with regard to the maintenance of a hospital will answer every purpose. If each member of the association will resolve to collect from all who may be willing to aid the cause, any sum, however small, it will amount in the aggregate to a fund amply sufficient, with other contributions that may be relied upon, to give full birth to the undertaking, and, once start-

ed, it will assert from year to year its claims upon the public by the force of facts which cannot be resisted.

At the same time, let us hope to raise these means without solicitations. It is one of the most pleasing facts connected with our association, that every shilling which has been contributed has been not sought, but offered.—Those who have no private objects to gain cannot descend to beg, upon any pretext whatever, and they owe it to the nature of their cause to place it on a higher footing. All that we may collect would bring little satisfaction if it were not twice blessed; and no gift can bless the giver, if it proceed merely as the reply to importunities which it would seem difficult to waive off. Let us, therefore, fix our best reliance on making known the fact that a hospital is wanted, and that it has been resolved to start one. All who sympathize with Homœopathy, and some who, knowing nothing of Homœopathy, may yet desire to promote the fair examination of a new and clearly stated doctrine, will then give us their aid spontaneously, and it is only in this way that it can be wished for. The smallest sum so bestowed will bring better results for all parties than all that might be extracted from those whose liberality arises but from the difficulty of saying—No.

Under these circumstances, our hospital will represent our hearts and minds, and not the mere fashion of charity. It will stand as a testimony to truth, with life in its very walls. The promulgation of the law on which health depends is the ground-work of every other duty; and this is what we seek in establishing Homœopathy. The feebleness and restlessness of impaired vitality will be found the prompters of all carelessness and crime; and before the reign of morality and religion can be established, we must do our best to raise the physical organization of mankind, so that each individual may use with complete efficiency the instruments or talents which have been committed to his charge. Every sacred impulse, therefore, calls us to this undertaking, and also every personal consideration, for the highest benevolence is the only true selfishness, and there never yet was a single grain of help given towards the establishment of a principle, which did not ultimately yield its reward, although in the complicated map of human events, the chain between the act and its consequences may have been undiscernible.

That many of those whom I now address will be permitted to see from the proceedings of this evening the growth of results almost incredible from their magnitude, is a conviction as plain to me as if the present were the future; and it will add to their sense of the efforts of the peaceful and unnoticed disciples of a simple truth, when, looking back over the bleak results of the wars and slaughter into which kings and peoples, and nations and their invaders, were plunged in 1849, they compare them with what will have grown from the quiet step



in which they were here engaged, and which will then be marked as having given the chief impulse to a means of healing that has carried vigor, hope, and comfort to every region of the globe."

The friends of Homœopathy are not only numerous in this city, but they are wealthy; and we hope soon to see a movement made to establish a Homœopathic hospital in New-York. We see no reason why London should take the lead in this matter; if we had a SAMPSON among us she would not be able to do so.

### INTOLERANCE.

The spirit of the age is against intolerance. He who is not willing to tolerate others in their opinions on medicine is behind the age, and cannot be useful in the field of science. Unless medical men reform their manners towards each other, quackery will prevail. To controvert opinions is proper and right; but to treat with disrespect a colleague on account of his opinions, is not only unwise but injurious to the progress of truth. It is now pretty well understood that those who persecute for opinion's sake are not actuated by a sincere love of truth, but by the meanest of all degrees of selfishness.

### ENVY AMONG MEDICAL MEN.

"Uneasiness, mortification, or discontent, excited by the sight of another's superiority or success, accompanied with some degree of hatred or malignity," are too often manifested among members of the medical profession. Members a hundred or a thousand miles apart, cherish the greatest respect and the highest opinion of each other's talent, learning, and skill; but when brought together in the same neighborhood they perceive nothing excellent in one another, because envy has blinded them. We do not speak of this evil with the expectation of removing it, or even diminishing it; but its existence should be known by the people, and they should be cautious how they allow one physician to injure another in their estimation. Set it down as a fixed fact that no honorable member of the profession will allow himself in the sin of detraction towards a colleague, and whoever thus indulges is unworthy of confidence. The man of real merit knows that to be guilty of such conduct militates against his interest. Experience proves that those physicians who are the most successful, and who are held in the

highest estimation by the people, never allow in themselves any degree of envy, but on the contrary they rejoice at the prosperity of their colleagues.

### HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIANS' CONVENTION.

By the following notice our readers will perceive that a Convention of all the Homœopathic Physicians of this state is to be held in May next. This movement is worthy the notice of all who are embraced in the call of the meeting, and we hope there will be a general attendance. The object proposed is, in our opinion, very important.

#### C I R C U L A R .

*New-York, April 6, 1850.*

SIR,—THE HAHNEMANN ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, at its last session, directed the undersigned to invite the Homœopathic Physicians of this State to attend a meeting in the city of Albany, on the 15th day of May next, at 9 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of effecting a state organization.

The object will be admitted to be a highly desirable one, and it is hoped that you will not only be personally present, but that you will also use your influence to secure the attendance of your fellow-practitioners, in order that the School may be fully represented.

With great respect,

Your obedient servants,  
JOHN F. GRAY, M. D.  
S. R. KIRBY, M. D.  
P. P. WELLS, M. D.  
J. W. METCALF, M. D.  
A. S. BALL, M. D.  
H. KINSLEY, M. D.  
J. A. MCVICKAR, M. D.

*Executive Council of the Hahnemann Academy of Medicine.*

*Bills of Mortality.*—These bills were commenced in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and, ever since the year 1603, have been published by authority in London. In this respect, the English metropolis stands alone; no *weekly* tables of the causes of the death of every inhabitant are published in the capital of any other European state. Various motives for the measure have been assigned; but the fact of continuous publication, from a period anterior to the appearance of newspapers and gazettes, is remarkable and characteristic. The parish clerks of London, in the seventeenth century, when the plague was at its height, counted the deaths and recorded their supposed causes; and the citizen, when the death-cart traversed the streets, anxiously studied the bill surrounded by its gloomy symbolic border, announcing 8,297 deaths in a week, out of a population of 600,000.—*London Lancet.*

# EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

LE ROY, N. Y., March 8, 1850.

DR. KIRBY,

SIR, — I have been much interested in the perusal of several articles which appeared in the March number of your Journal, especially the one entitled, "Devotion to a Cause."

It is a deplorable fact that too many physicians of our school are wanting in the right kind of zeal to promote the spread of a knowledge of Homœopathy. Harmony of opinion, union of effort, and untiring energy would soon cause the people to perceive the deep interest they have in the downfall of Allopathy and in the adoption of Homœopathy. The false statements, the bigotry, the abuse, the sarcasm, and the contempt of the enemies of a true healing art in the profession itself, would soon yield or become weak by a consistent course of conduct on the part of Homœopaths themselves.

The doctrines of Hahnemann must be promulgated; the public mind must be made to perceive that the violent opposition to them is no evidence against their truth. I do not doubt that the time is near when the truth of our doctrines will be generally acknowledged. So long as the people are kept in ignorance of the principles of Homœopathy, Allopathic tyranny and monopoly will reign. The Allopathic school is against informing the people on medicine, for they well know that their mode of treating disease can never bear the investigation of an intelligent community. The Homœopathic school courts inquiry, the most exact inquiry into her principles and practice; she conceals nothing, and does not desire to do so. Allopathy can scarcely live in the next generation, and the labors of Hahnemann will finally be duly acknowledged.

Our system suffers much from the attempts of unqualified men to practice it; but this cannot be wholly avoided; but the system being true, it must progress, notwithstanding its many embarrassments; for it has already too strong a foothold, and it is of giant strength.

In western New York, Homœopathy is making steady progress. Some Allopathists, who have souls of their own, are investigating and gradually adopting the practice of our art.

Yours truly,

I. L. GAGE, M. D.

## A Medical Partner Wanted,

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Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of this Journal may be had at \$1 00 each of Mr. Rademacher, Philadelphia; Otis Clapp, Boston; and of the Editor, 762 Broadway.





